

## Fears of huge death toll in atom disaster

● A Kiev source says 2,000 people died in the nuclear plant disaster at Chernobyl.  
● The Soviet Union has ended its news blackout, but says that only two people died in the incident.  
● Anger is mounting in the Nordic countries at Moscow's failure to warn of spreading radiation — page 6.  
● Poland has set up a civil-military crisis team to deal with a radioactive cloud.

By Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent

The Soviet Union yesterday appealed to Western countries for help in dealing with the disaster at its nuclear power station in the Ukraine, where a fire was raging out of control and thousands of families were reported to have been evacuated from a wide surrounding area.

One Russian diplomat described the accident at the Chernobyl plant as "the worst ever in the world" of its kind, and according to a United Press International report quoting sources in Kiev, about 2,000 people may have been killed.

Radiation from the disaster area was still being recorded in Scandinavian countries, and West German officials expressed concern that easterly winds might bring contamination towards Germany.

Britain is not at risk, according to experts here. The US said last night that it was "ready, willing and able" to give Russia medical and technical help, but had not been asked for assistance.

The Soviet Union did, however, seek advice from nuclear power experts in Sweden and West Germany on how to control the fire burning at Chernobyl several days after the accident.

Authorities in Moscow have released few details about the cause or extent of the damage, but some Western scientists believe a meltdown of nuclear fuel — the ultimate disaster — had occurred.

An 18-mile radius area around the station was being evacuated, according to some reports, with fleets of buses and other vehicles commandeered to take tens of thousands of people to safety.

A resident in Kiev, about 60 miles away, who was said to have close contacts with hospitals and rescue services, said between 10,000 and 15,000 people had been evacuated from Pripyat, the city built close to the plant to house its labour force.

"Eighty people died immediately and some 2,000 people died on the way to hospitals," the source said. "The whole October Hospital in Kiev is packed with people who suffer from radiation sickness."

"The dead were not buried in ordinary cemeteries but in the village of Pigrorov, where radioactive wastes are usually buried."

A spokeswoman at the October Hospital later denied that patients from the accident area were being treated there. Other details of the UPI report could not be confirmed.

Western embassies in Moscow said there were many similar rumours, including a figure of up to 3,000 deaths, but it was impossible to assess them.

Last night the Soviet Government issued a statement through Tass, saying two people had been killed, and that evacuations had taken place from the plant vicinity and nearby population centres.

The "radiation situation" at the power station had been stabilized and "necessary medical aid" given to those affected.

The statement gave few details of the nature of the accident but said it "resulted in the destruction of part of the structural elements of the building housing the reactor, its damage, and a certain leak of radioactive substances".

The statement said the accident affected what it called the fourth power generating unit, but said the other three units were in order, although they were shut down as a precautionary step.

"Priority measures have been taken to deal with the effects of the accident. The inhabitants of the station's settlement (Pripyat) and three nearby populated localities have been evacuated."

Pripyat has a population of between 25,000 and 45,000, according to various reports. Some health experts in Britain who specialize in the hazards of nuclear radiation believe many people living near Chernobyl could die within weeks or months from the effects of very high doses of radiation.

Other victims could contract cancer in five or more years' time, and some mothers were at risk of giving birth to babies with genetic disorders or mental handicaps.

Although the Soviet Government was seeking advice from Swedish, West German and British nuclear safety experts on how to deal with the fire at the plant, the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority is the only organization with such experience.

A fire broke out at Windscale, now known as Sellafield, in 1957, but was insignificant in comparison with the Chernobyl outbreak.

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## Poland sets up crisis team

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw

Poland has set up a top-level civil-military crisis team to deal with the threat of a radioactive cloud, apparently covering scores of miles, that has gusted into north-eastern Poland.

Mr Jerzy Urban, the government spokesman, said yesterday that there were contacts between the Soviet and Polish Governments and between scientific experts of the two countries to gauge the scope of the problem.

In Poland, the team headed by Mr Zbigniew Szalajda, Deputy Prime Minister, met yesterday morning to draw up emergency plans.

Members of the team include the ministers of health and agriculture, a general, a scientist and the head of the Polish atomic energy authority.

Hospitals in the area have been put on standby alert and food reserves have been mobilized.

The Polish Ministry of Health instructed Poles not to buy or drink milk that comes from the north-east of Poland.

Although most cows in the area are eating dried, stored fodder, some may be grazing on pasture land, and this could prove to be a high risk, especially for bottle-fed babies.

Every vegetable should be thoroughly washed and medicines would be dispensed to reduce the effects of radioactivity, the ministry said.

In a separate communiqué, the ministerial crisis team said that treatment facilities were available, but stressed that the radiation cloud did not represent a real danger, mainly because it was still moving.

Had the cloud remained static, radioactivity would prove to be a real problem.

Mr Urban did not disclose any details about the density of the cloud which has been blown 310 miles from the Chernobyl power station but said that it had triggered about 200 geiger counters run by the civil and military authorities.

That suggests the cloud covers a large area probably taking in Swallow in the top north-eastern corner, part of the Baltic coast and cities like Olsztyn and Białystok.

The overall strategy is to play down the crisis. So far no restrictions have been put on food sales though the measure seems to be under review.

It is an area of lakes and forests which usually has a significant rainfall at this time of year.

First visitors from the north-east yesterday reported that the news of the cloud was beginning to spread by word of mouth and people were beginning to buy in canned food.

Until yesterday, there had been no press reports about the Soviet disaster, but by yesterday evening, it had become the lead news item on radio and television.

Police equipped with riot gear stood by outside the 20 foot high walls as pieces of tile crashed into the street and on to parked cars. Prisoners yelled their demand that they would stay on the roof until the officers were allowed to return.

About 30 senior staff and assistant governors from other prisons were last night believed to be running the prison and more are expected to be drafted in today.

They were helping Mr Nicholas Wall, the governor, to keep control of the 300 inmates but prison officers who

Continued on page 16, col 1

## Last journey of Duchess of Windsor



Eight Welsh Guards carry the coffin of the Duchess of Windsor at St George's Chapel.

## Simple funeral shorn of pomp

By Alan Hamilton

The bright English spring sun shone on the last journey of Wallis, Duchess of Windsor, yesterday afternoon, as it had too little shone on her life.

Her funeral service was simple and shorn of pomp, her burial intensely private, witnessed by only four members of the Royal family and eight old friends and retainers from half a century of exile. It was the way she and the Duke had planned it together.

She did not so much come home, for little of her life was in England; she came to join her husband, who had lain under a spreading plane tree in the Royal burial ground at Frogmore since 1972, and whose death abandoned the Duchess to a desolate widowhood.

Her body, which had lain in the Albert Memorial Chapel of St George's in Windsor Castle since its arrival from Paris on Sunday, was carried by a bearers party of Welsh Guards, of which the Duke was once Colonel-in-Chief, early yesterday afternoon to be placed on its purple draped catafalque in the quire of St George's. On top of it lay the Queen's wreath of white and orange lilies, almost the only flowers present.

The guard was taken up by the Military Knights of Windsor, their scarlet tunics a rare ray of colour in a stark scene.

Over 100 mourners filed into their places in the nave. The French influence was strong: British ambassadors to Paris past and present; friends from the continental social circle of which the Windsors were so long the fulcrum; old acquaintances like Lady Diana Mosley and Lady Alexandra Metcalfe, widow of the Duke's best man and the sole surviving witness of their wedding.

The French women wore black chûs and veils. Baron Guy de Rothschild said: "We were invited, and it was the least we could do to come. She was very popular in France."

Beyond the quire screen the honoured guests overlooked the English oak coffin with its silver paste inscribed simply: "Wallis, Duchess of Windsor, 1896-1986".

Royal guests, all in mourning black, were led by the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh. Beside them sat the Prince and Princess of Wales, the Queen Mother, Princess Anne, Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester, the Duchess of Kent, Princess Alexandra and Mr Angus Ogilvy, and Prince and Princess Michael of Kent. All sat hidden by the quire.

Continued on page 16, col 7

## Anarchy claimed in prison as dispute escalates

By Peter Evans and Craig Seton

Industrial action by more than 18,000 prison officers is set to disrupt jails throughout the country as claims were made of "total anarchy" and riot conditions inside Gloucester prison yesterday.

The governor suspended officers taking part in protest action over manning levels.

Members of the Prison Officers' Association in England, Wales and Northern Ireland are being instructed from today to take industrial action described as extensive, highly disruptive and on a continuing basis.

POA officials forecast last night that the action would be more serious than in 1980-81 when troops were called in to man an incomplete prison and two camps were opened to take overspill prisoners.

At Gloucester, more than 20 prisoners staging a rooftop protest over the officers' lock-out hurled bricks and tiles at senior staff and demanded that they be allowed to return to their posts.

Police equipped with riot gear stood by outside the 20 foot high walls as pieces of tile crashed into the street and on to parked cars. Prisoners yelled their demand that they would stay on the roof until the officers were allowed to return.

About 30 senior staff and assistant governors from other prisons were last night believed to be running the prison and more are expected to be drafted in today.

They were helping Mr Nicholas Wall, the governor, to keep control of the 300 inmates but prison officers who

Continued on page 2, col 8

## Business forces tax changes

By David Smith

The Treasury yesterday announced significant tax changes in response to criticism of last month's Budget. It also changed the rules to allow companies to finance themselves without relying on bank borrowing.

Intense lobbying by leading British companies, including ICI and Reuters, forced the Treasury to tone down its controversial tax on American Depository Receipts — British shares denominated in dollars and traded in New York.

Mr John MacGregor, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, said that the rate of the proposed tax was being cut from 5 to 1.5 per cent.

Sir Nicholas Goodison, chairman of the Stock Exchange, welcomed the changes.

Share prices, partly in anticipation of the Treasury's announcements, were strong yesterday. The Financial Times 30-share index rose by 25.9 points to 1,391.2.

ADR tax cut, page 17

## Russians end news blackout

From Christopher Walker, Moscow

The Soviet authorities last night ended a news blackout on details of the nuclear accident at the Chernobyl plant when an announcement from the Council of Ministers admitted that two people had been killed in the mishap and an unspecified number of people evacuated.

The announcement, read in sombre tones on national television, was deliberately not placed at the top of the news which is broadcast throughout the country.

It acknowledged for the first time that the accident had destroyed part of the structural elements of the building housing the reactor.

The statement, released simultaneously by Tass, was the first official news of the accident issued in 24 hours. It said that a Government commission, including the heads of ministries, leading scientists and other specialists, was working in the region.

"The radiation situation at the electric power station and adjacent territory has now been stabilized and the necessary medical aid is being given to those affected," it said.

It added: "The inhabitants of the nuclear power station's settlement and three nearby populated localities have been evacuated."

The Council of Ministers statement gave no indication of the number of injuries.

Unofficial estimates here put those involved in the evacuation at several thousand.

The Soviet statement, which followed a day of prevarication by the Foreign Ministry which refused to answer any queries from Western diplomats, said: "According to preliminary data, the accident took place in one

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## Tomorrow

### Voice of Russia



Profile of Leonid Zamyatin, former head of the Tass news agency, who is the new Soviet ambassador to London

### Portfolio Gold

● Three readers shared the daily Times Portfolio Gold prize of £4,000 yesterday — details, page 3.  
● Today there is another £4,000 to be won.  
● Portfolio Gold list, page 20; rules and how to play, information service, page 16.

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## Failure to alert criticized

By Richard Evans, Lobby Reporter

The House of Commons united last night to strongly criticize the Soviet Union for failing to immediately notify neighbouring countries of the disaster at its nuclear power plant near Kiev.

Mrs Thatcher told MPs the Swedish and Finnish governments were only informed of the incident after radioactive clouds had reached their countries.

But she reassured them that preliminary tests carried out in Britain following the massive nuclear leak, had failed to detect any increase in the level of radioactivity in the UK.

Together with other Cabinet ministers, the Prime Minister went out of her way to stress the "absolutely superb" safety record of Britain's nuclear industry. "We have a very high standard of safety and design, construction operation and maintenance of nuclear

plant in the UK," she said. Mr Peter Walker, the Secretary of State for Energy, has officially asked Moscow to make available full details of the accident.

In a statement to the Commons, Mr Kenneth Baker, the Secretary of State for the Environment, said a disturbing feature of the incident was the way in which knowledge of it had not come from Moscow but from monitoring by neighbouring countries.

"I hope the Soviet Union will make available information about this incident because it is very valuable for the whole of the nuclear industry and the world to know as much as possible."

He confirmed that about 100 British students were in Minsk, about 60 miles north of the Chernobyl nuclear plant, when the accident occurred. Embassy officials in Moscow were investigating.

The UK Atomic Energy Authority and the National Radiological Protection Board were carrying out substantial monitoring of radioactivity levels. The Ministry of Agriculture would be checking soil samples on the east coast and in north Wales as well as testing milk samples all this week.

Mr Baker said the graphite moderated reactor responsible for the nuclear leak was of a unique design and there were none like it in the West. British experts had rejected the reactor as unstable in the 1950s.

## Botha urges blacks to back peace initiative

From Ray Kennedy, Johannesburg

Mr P W Botha, the South African President, made a direct televised appeal to blacks last night to support his efforts for negotiated peace in the country.

He said: "I am aware of your problems and I am willing to deal with them in a positive way. But the Government and I cannot do this alone."

"We need to discuss solutions with black leaders in a peaceful way. I have extended my hand of friendship to all those in our country, black, white, brown, who are committed to the peaceful solution of our problems."

Clearly referring to his proposed national statutory council, Mr Botha said: "I appeal to all reasonable South Africans to support this process." Legislation would be introduced shortly to make it possible.

Mr Ian MacGregor, the NCB's chairman, said the board would stick to its threat to withdraw the offer today with the result that miners would lose back pay dating from the beginning of November.

Mr MacGregor reaffirmed the ultimatum after announcing details of the board's best financial performance for seven years.

Pit closures hint, page 17.

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# Alliance chiefs set to impose spending limit on manifesto

By Anthony Bevis, Political Correspondent

Leaders of the Liberal-Social Democratic Alliance are seeking cuts in their policy commitments in an attempt to impose a top annual limit of £10,000 million on their projected increased expenditure during the lifetime of a five-year Parliament.

A confidential letter sent to Alliance MPs by the parties' two economic spokesmen, Mr Ian Wigglesworth, SDP MP for Stockton South, and Mr David Penhaligon, Liberal MP for Truro, says: "There are going to be severe public expenditure restraints for some years to come and a number of cherished hopes may have to be delayed."

"The truth is, unless we are prepared to argue for substantially higher taxation, which we do not believe to be feasible, we must be prepared to establish strict priorities for higher spending, to consider phasing in the more expensive changes, to identify areas where savings can be made, and to seek new solutions to problems."

It is understood that Alliance leaders have been urged to toughen action by the Government's damaging charge that Labour commitments could cost as much as £24,000 million - vehemently denied by Mr Roy Hattersley, the shadow Chancellor.

The Alliance letter, agreed by a joint leadership policy meeting, says: "The Alliance should plan for a maximum 2 per cent per annum increase in total public expenditure over an initial five-year period, compared with the present government's experience of a 1.5 per cent increase since 1983-84."

"Extra spending to create jobs and revive industry and commerce should have the highest priority, with other policy areas taking second place except to the extent that they fulfil these economic objectives."

An annex to the letter says that existing commitments include real improvements in health and personal social services, education and training, housing, transport, inner cities, job creation, industry and overseas aid.

A spending standstill would be imposed on agriculture, law and order, defence and environmental services.

## Commons anger over Cornish tin mines

By Sheila Gunn  
Political Staff

MPs of all parties rounded on the Government in the Commons yesterday for failing to give aid to save the few remaining Cornish tin mines.

If help is not forthcoming before the end of the week it is feared that planned mine closures will be unstoppable.

Mr David Harris, Conservative MP for St Ives, predicted that the pumps would be turned off at Geevor mine this weekend, which would mean it could not be reopened, because of flooding.

Rio Tinto Zinc has announced that it will close its three mines with the loss of 1,000 jobs.

Mr Peter Morrison, Minister of State for Trade and Industry, repeatedly told MPs that an application for help from Geevor tin mines was being considered, but there was none from RTZ.

The Cornish tin industry, which once boasted 600 mines, has been hit by the fall in the world price of tin from £9,500 a tonne to below £4,000 in one year.

Mr David Penhaligon, Liberal MP for Truro, predicted that prices would rise again.

Mr Robin Maxwell-Hyslop, Conservative MP for Tiverton, and a member of the trade and industry select committee, said it was better to "take a risk" over the future price of tin than suffer unemployment.

Mr Robert Hicks, Conservative MP for Cornwall South East, said that the delay in offering aid was causing frustration and annoyance.

Parliament, page 4



Tin miners yesterday waiting to start their shift down the Wheal Jane (Photograph: John Voos).

## Subsidy the only hope for tin miners

By Tim Jones

A thousand Cornish tin miners were this week confronted with the prospect that they may be finished for ever. Not unexpected, the news was nevertheless devastating.

Tin mining is hard and brutal: a face worker is old at 45, sapped by working 1,400 feet below ground in humid heat. The men were shaken by the announcement from Rio Tinto Zinc that it was to close its three mines in August unless "no practical solution is forthcoming."

That means a huge subsidy from the Government to tide the industry over the crisis caused by the default of the International Tin Council in October last year and the subsequent failure of the 22 member governments to agree

a common cause of action.

Since then, a Commons select committee on trade and industry has accused the Government of "secrecy and incompetence" over its handling of the crisis and recom-

mended financial support for the industry.

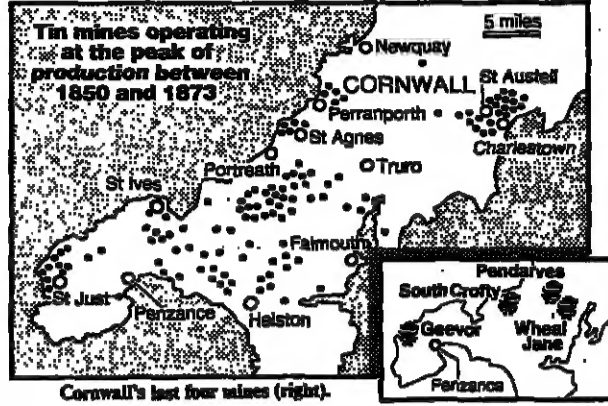
The price of tin has plummeted from £9,500 a tonne to about £3,900 a tonne on the international spot market. Cornish tin is viable only if it

sells for about £7,000 a tonne.

Miners who work in Wheal Jane, South Crofty and Wheal Penryn are convinced that if they can receive government help of about £50 million they can ride the storm.

Mr Peter Gately, aged 35, married with two children, said yesterday at the rock face: "We all have commitments which match our earnings and if the mines close there is little hope of any other job."

Another miner, Mr Jeff Parsons, who will travel to London today to plead the case, said: "Considering tin is a prime natural resource which can meet half of Britain's needs it seems crazy to close us down for short-term financial considerations. All we are asking for is help to tide us over this bad patch."



## Gangs replace poachers

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

The traditional local poacher with his "one for the pot" has been largely replaced by well-equipped criminal gangs.

Mr Leonard Soper, Chief Constable of Gloucestershire, told a conference in London yesterday of the Standing Conference on Countryside Sports.

The rewards of poaching on a large scale were likely to be considerable, whether for game, deer or fish, he said.

If thwarted or unsuccessful in poaching they would turn to other criminal activity. There were large, isolated properties in the countryside attractive to burglars.

The modern poacher is therefore not necessarily, perhaps unlikely to be, a country-

man. He will have achieved some knowledge of the countryside and sufficient of the countryman's skills to enable him to catch or kill his quarry.

"But he will certainly not have a countryman's sense of balance and proportion and feeling for the countryside. He will certainly not be considering the well-being or livelihood of those who live in the countryside, and he will not be considering the well-being of, or the question of cruelty to, his quarry."

The modern poacher was not alone, was prepared to travel long distances and was well equipped. Salmon poachers in Gloucestershire were

often equipped with Land Rovers, inflatable boats and radios.

They knew the law and the extent of police powers and because they were likely to be members of a criminal fraternity, they were likely to resort to violence, sometimes extreme violence, if there was a prospect of detection.

Mr Douglas Hurd, Home Secretary, told the conference that the new arrest powers under the Public Order Bill provided the police with an effective means of dealing with hunt saboteurs and ensuring that the disruptions caused by "peace convoys" was kept within tight controls.

## Mayors at Domesday service

A total of 400 mayors and Lord Mayors from throughout Britain joined Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother, at Westminster Abbey yesterday to celebrate the nine-hundredth anniversary of the Domesday Book.

It was one of the biggest ever gatherings of local authority leaders. The mayors, who had special permission from the Lord Mayor of Westminster to wear their red robes and ceremonial chains in the Abbey, were invited to the service by the Domesday Commission.

Their presence emphasized the importance of William the Conqueror's book as a foundation stone for Britain's national and local government.

The Queen Mother, who later attended the Duchess of Windsor's funeral at Windsor, wore a black hat and coat.

Several hundred dignitaries crowded into the Abbey, parts of which are older than the Domesday Book of 1086.

Among them were Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone, the Lord Chancellor, and Mr Bernard Weatherill, the Speaker of the House of Commons.

Mr Geoffrey Martin, the Keeper of Public Records told them: "There is nothing in our history quite like the Domesday Book."

In his address he praised its "confident professionalism" and thoroughness. A facsimile of the book was carried through the Abbey during the service.

## Euro-MPs immunity opposed

By Richard Evans  
Lobby Reporter

A dispute broke out at Westminster last night over a House of Lords report approving proposals to give Euro-MPs widespread immunity from criminal prosecution.

The peers say that members of the European Parliament should be immune from arrest or criminal prosecution in respect of any acts except crimes of violence.

Mr Edward Taylor, Conservative MP for Southend East, and secretary of the Conservative European Reform Group, said: "This is an outrageous proposal and I hope the British Government will reject it."

The only important immunity enjoyed by Westminster MPs is the freedom of speech in proceedings in Parliament.

The report comes after a request by members of the European Parliament to increase their privileges and immunities. Strong reservations over the proposals have been expressed by the Foreign Office, the Home Office and the Lord Chancellor's Department.

The peers say the European Parliament lacks the powers possessed by Westminster to protect itself and its members against interference by means of criminal law.

But they insist the planned immunity should not apply to the arrest of a Euro-MP committing, about to commit or having just committed an offence.

## Prisoners freed on parole up 40-fold

By Richard Evans

The number of prisoners serving short sentences who have been released early on parole has increased more than 40-fold during the past four years, it was disclosed yesterday.

Mr David Mellor, junior Home Office minister, disclosed that 8,302 prisoners sentenced to between a year and 23 months in jail were granted parole in 1985, compared to just 201 in 1982.

The largest increase was between 1983 and 1984 when the figure increased from 202 to 5,743. That was mainly due to the reduction in the minimum qualifying period, for parole.

Mr Gerald Bermingham, Labour MP for St Helens South, obtained the figures in a written Commons answer.

● The process of reviewing applications from prisoners serving life sentences to be released on licence has increased from six months to about 10, in spite of recent moves to simplify the procedure, the Ombudsman said yesterday (George Hill writes).

He was commenting on a report on the case of a prisoner who had to wait more than 13 months to hear whether he would be released.

The Ombudsman accepts in his report that some lengthening of the process seems "almost inevitable" without staff increases or streamlined procedures.

Third Report, Session 1985-1986, HC 336, Stationery Office, £7.50.

## Dispute in prison escalates

Continued from page 1

He claimed that the breakdown in relations with the Governor came about because Mr Wall had masterminded a plan involving Assistant Governors and other senior members of management to take control of the main gate and keys to the prison and lock out prison officers late on Monday night.

He said the day shift of 70 prison officers had been told they could not enter the building unless they agreed to the Governor's terms and signed "some sort of declaration of loyalty."

The 125-strong branch of the POA at Gloucester had been incensed by the Governor's threats, he said, and had passed a vote of no-confidence in him. They now wanted him removed.

The prison officers at Gloucester deny that their protest is over the amount of money they will lose because of the new manning levels the governor wants imposed to meet Home Office proposals.

Inside the prison, Mr Dunbar told a press conference that on Monday night the governor had taken steps "to control the gate of this prison because staff refused to accept his lawful orders". His action had been to secure access to and from the prison.

Mr Dunbar told *The Times* that he was keen for talks between the Governor and the prison officers to go ahead, but first the warders had to accept the governor's authority.

## Study into choice of jury trial

By Our Legal Affairs Correspondent

The reason defendants choose to be tried at the crown courts by jury rather than by magistrates is to be studied in a £75,000 research project launched by the Lord Chancellor's Department.

The research, to be undertaken at York University, is aimed at finding ways to cut the workload at crown courts which has substantially increased in recent years.

It also comes at a time when the Government proposes in its next criminal justice Bill to remove the right to trial by jury in the case of three offences to ease the crown court workload.

Defendants and their lawyers will be interviewed about their reasons for choice.

## Moderate realist at union's helm

By Craig Seton

Mr Bill Jordan, who was confirmed yesterday as the new president of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers, Britain's second largest union, is regarded by the labour movement as a right winger and by those who know him well as a realist and a moderate.

In the ballot to find a successor to Mr Terence Duffy, Mr Jordan polled 119,220 votes and Mr John Tocher, the left-wing candidate, 95,511.

At a press conference in Birmingham yesterday Mr Jordan, aged 50, the union's divisional organizer in the Midlands for 10 years, was keen to play down his reputation as a "moderate."

He said: "I may be regarded as a moderate, but I am avaricious for jobs and greedy

for success that will bring wealth and a fair share of that wealth for working people."

He said that as an engineer, he took a practical view of the modern world. "I think we have got to get away from some of the ideology of the past. I want success for our industries. I want it for our union and I want it in jobs."

"Our outlook has to be dominated by logic first - if an employer will not listen to logic, then and only then you have to resort to muscle."

Mr Jordan, married with three grown-up daughters and about to become a grandfather for the fourth time, hailed the result of the ballot for the presidency as a "great victory."

No one who had witnessed the cut back and devastation of manufacturing industry could underestimate the dam-

age that had been done. AUEW workers were prepared to work for the success of industry.

Mr John Allen, district secretary of the AUEW in Birmingham, who knows Mr Jordan well, said: "He is quite different from Terry Duffy, who was an instinctive fellow, whereas Bill will make sure he is well armed and well briefed before he challenges an employer on the facts."

"He is a very deep researcher and a detailed negotiator."

Mr Jordan takes up his new post on May 7. He intends to leave Birmingham and move to London with his wife, Jane.

Mr Jordan is a passionate football follower, but his team, Birmingham City, has been relegated to the second division. He said that his unstinting support showed his commitment to the underdog.



Mr Jordan wants success for workers and industry

## Man in the news

### Local elections

## Alliance challenges Hatton

By Peter Davenport

Voters in the local elections in Liverpool have the opportunity to do what the Labour Party leadership has so far failed to achieve: to end the Militant domination of city council politics.

Liberal-SDP Alliance leaders in the city are confident of achieving a big enough swing in the May 8 election to make them the biggest party and wrest control from Labour.

Thirty-seven of the 99 council seats will be contested next week: 17 held by Labour, seven by the Tories and 10 by the Alliance.

Of the Labour seats 13 are held by councillors against disqualification as a result of their rates rebellion.

The main issue throughout the campaign is the performance of the Labour council during the past few years and its tactics of financial confrontation with the Government.

If the Alliance achieves its targets the composition of the council will be Alliance 47 seats, Labour 45, Conservatives six, with one seat vacant.

However, if the 47 Labour councillors lose their appeal against disqualification further elections will have to be held for their seats within 42 days and the Alliance expects to win 16 and achieve overall control of the council.

The Alliance says that a 15 per cent swing on May 8, as achieved when they overtook a 1,000-vote Labour majority in the Old Swan council by-election in January, would give them up to nine Labour seats.

But the crucial campaign is taking place in the seven Tory-held seats the Alliance must win to end Labour control.

Four are in wards where Liberals already have councillors and are confident of victory. The other three, Allerton, Croxteth and Woolton, are solidly Conservative and are being fought by SDP candidates who are campaigning heavily to persuade Tory electors that tactical voting is the only means of ending the reign of Mr Derek Hatton and his colleagues.

Rating reforms, among the harsh legacies bequeathed by Mr George Younger to Mr Malcolm Rifkind, his successor as Secretary of State for Scotland, have received a Green Paper, but the benefits of the change have not been generally grasped by Scottish ratepayers.

The Conservatives are also feeling the backlash from public spending cuts, the closure of the Gartnavel plant and other issues which have put the Scottish Office team on the defensive.

Party campaigners report "phenomenally good response" to their arguments.

## Tories put brave face on Scottish elections

By Ronald Faux

Scottish Conservatives said yesterday that they were "quietly confident" about their chances in the regional elections on May 8, which will be a difficult test in popularity.

Conservatives run three of the nine Scottish regional councils, only one of them with an overall majority.

The Government has no realistic hopes of winning ground elsewhere given its controversial policies in Scotland, which have not been presented to the party's credit.

Rating reforms, among the harsh legacies bequeathed by Mr George Younger to Mr Malcolm Rifkind, his successor as Secretary of State for Scotland, have received a Green Paper, but the benefits of the change have not been generally grasped by Scottish ratepayers.

The Conservatives are also feeling the backlash from public spending cuts, the closure of the Gartnavel plant and other issues which have put the Scottish Office team on the defensive.

Party campaigners report "phenomenally good response" to their arguments.

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## Challenge over nurse home sale

By Nicholas Timmins  
Social Services Correspondent

The Royal College of Nursing yesterday challenged the Government to issue guidance on the sale of nurses' accommodation.

The college has said that the health service's ability to recruit staff and to respond to terrorist incidents or disasters was being threatened by plans to sell off nurses' homes.

Last week, Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services, gave an undertaking that no nurse would be made homeless by the sale of "surplus" NHS accommodation, which ministers believe could raise £170 million.

But student nurses at the RCN's annual congress in Blackpool said hundreds of colleagues had received letters giving them notice to quit.

Mr Trevor Clay, RCN general secretary, said the college would take legal action if a health authority attempted to evict nurses. Mr Fowler's statement last week that authorities should retain accommodation "as needed" for student nurses and other staff in areas such as inner cities had confused officials.

Doctors must warn young girls seeking the contraceptive pill that they were risking cervical cancer by having sexual intercourse at an early age, Mrs Rose Dixon, a cancer nurse in Wirral, told the congress.

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NT APRIL 29 1986

Nuclear accident

Jail dispute

Finance Bill

# Russians pressed to give full details of nuclear disaster

## RADIOACTIVITY

Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, reassured the Commons during question time that preliminary measurements had failed to detect any increased radioactivity in the United Kingdom following the reported nuclear power accident in the Ukraine.

Mr Kenneth Baker, Secretary of State for the Environment, in a brief statement on the accident, said that a disturbing feature was the way in which knowledge of it had emerged, not from the Soviet Government, but by monitoring in other countries.

He urged the Soviet Government to give a full account of what had happened and the steps that had been taken to bring the incident under control. Present evidence suggested there was no danger to the UK but the situation would continue to be monitored carefully.

He pointed out that the UK did not know with any certainty the precise nature of the incident but it was clear that there might have been significant casualties. Mrs Thatcher told MPs that there was a duty on countries to report accidents through the International Atomic Energy Agency.

Reaction in the Commons to the Soviet accident was first raised by Mr Gerald Boreham (Dulwich, C) who asked: In view of the widespread alarm about reports of leaks from the nuclear installation in the Soviet Union, would she reassure the House and nation that our own security checks and monitoring system would prevent such an occurrence in the UK?

Mrs Thatcher: We have very high standards of safety, design, construction and maintenance of nuclear plants.

Mr Tony Benn (Chesterfield, Lab), former Secretary of State for Energy: As this clearly is a very serious accident in the Soviet nuclear power station, and the Americans have refused to build a pressure water reactor for nine years because of safety anxieties, will she give an assurance that there will be no decision about building a PWR at Sellafield until there has been a full report on the Soviet accident and the House has an opportunity to take into account the very large number of issues raised, including the leaks at Sellafield and the decision to sell British plutonium to America for their weapons programme?

Mrs Thatcher: He is in a position to know the very high standards of safety we exact in the construction of our nuclear plants and the high standards of our nuclear installations.

We shall have to await the report of the inquiry into Sizewell before taking any action.

Mr Alan Fletcher (Edinburgh Central, C) said that there had been a callous and irresponsible failure by the Soviet Government to give the earliest possible warning about the dangers of nuclear fall-out, to say nothing of lack of advice to their own citizens.

Will the Prime Minister take the earliest opportunity (he asked) to condemn the action of the Soviet Union directly and through the European Community and the United Nations?

Mrs Thatcher: I understand the Swedish and Finnish governments were only informed after radioactive clouds had reached their territory. There is a duty, through the International Atomic Energy Agency, to report accidents.

Mr David Alton (Liverpool,

Mossley Hill, L): What help and advice were requested of the Atomic Energy Authority in fighting fires raging following the disaster?

What trans-frontier agreements are there between the Soviet Union and other countries to combat leaks of radioactive waste and for containing explosion after such leaks?

Mrs Thatcher: We have not received any request for help which is perhaps not surprising in all the circumstances. We are not in a position to make an assessment. The British nuclear industry has very high standards.

Reacting later to Mr Baker's comments, Dr John Cunningham, chief Opposition spokesman on the environment, whose Copeland constituency contains the Sellafield nuclear reprocessing plant, suggested that the Government should make strong and immediate representations to the Soviet Union over the need for the



Cunningham: Make immediate representations

fullest and most urgent disclosure of all information about the nature and scale of the accident.

Could Mr Baker confirm that a graphite moderated reactor in a station comprising four light-water reactors, apparently without secondary containment, had been on fire for several days?

What information was there about the nature of the radioactive emissions? Would the British Government respond positively to any requests from the Soviet Union for assistance? Were there any nuclear installations at risk in the UK? (Conservative protest.)

Would any additional monitoring be required in the United Kingdom and what liaison was taking place with other European Governments on the nature of the contamination?

Would the Government join with other European Governments to request international inspection of the site and consequences of the accident?

Mr Baker said the Secretary of State for Energy (Mr Peter Walker) had already asked for full details of the accident.

He could not confirm details about a continuing fire. The British Government had not been asked for assistance, but if scientific help was requested, the British Government would be helpful, such assistance would be made available.

There were no such power stations in the United Kingdom. Monitoring by the National Radiological Protection Board at Oxford and Glasgow with gamma monitors had found no increase in radioactivity at the moment. The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food were checking the position.

The Central Electricity Generating Board power stations had monitoring equipment and there was no indication of increases in radioactivity.

The Soviet Union was a member of the International Atomic Energy Agency, to report accidents.

about the accident, because it was valuable for the industry worldwide to know as much as possible.

Mr Patrick Jenkin (Wansley and Woodford, C), former Secretary of State for the Environment: Many of Dr Cunningham's questions would have been better addressed to the Soviet Government. (Conservative cheers)

Is there not a remarkable contrast between the reticence of the Soviet authorities about what is obviously an extremely serious accident, and the openness of the system in western governments, most recently exemplified by the statement of the new chairman of British Nuclear Fuels Ltd which has been so warmly welcomed by environmental interests in this country?

Mr Baker: There is, unfortunately, a striking contrast because we have the public opinion of our people to be concerned about it and it is right and proper we should put our cards on the table and be open as we are in all these matters.

I have been speaking today to representatives of our team of nuclear inspectors and confirming with them that in our nuclear policy safety is absolutely paramount. Nuclear energy must carry the conviction of the people and this can only be done with very vigorous safety standards.

Mr David Alton: The British Council has had there are about 100 students and teachers in the region. What efforts are being made in Moscow and Leningrad to contact them and ascertain their safety?

He is criticising the lack of information coming from the Soviet Union but the Government is running a tight rein over the information it makes available on our own nuclear industry. Far too much secrecy surrounds it in this country.

Mr Baker: He does his cause no good by exaggerating. There is openness and frankness in dealing with this. It is one of the most regulated industries with a vast number of checks and balances.

Regarding the students, our embassy in Moscow is checking on them. We think there are some students in Minsk which is about 100 km north of the incident.

Mr Tony Benn: Before he is too ready to criticise the concealment, which like him I strongly regret, will he look to see that when there was a major nuclear explosion in 1958 in the Soviet Union it was monitored by the CIA which notified the Atomic Energy Authority in Britain and told them not to make it public for fear it might cause anxiety about nuclear power. There are many other examples.

There is a growing number of people who believe the time has come to phase out nuclear power.

Mr Baker: He would be on stronger ground if the Soviet Union had told the world about this when it occurred rather than us learning about it from monitoring in other countries. I would strongly contest his view that there is less than frankness in our own industry.

He later said that in Britain there had been no full-scale major incident in 25 years in operating civil power stations.

Mr Richard Alexander (Newark, C) would he give advice on jobs to deal with the Greenpeace protesters and other environmental groups no doubt at this moment massing outside the Soviet Embassy? (Laughter)

Mr Baker: The protests are likely to be much greater in western capitals this weekend than you are ever going to hear in Moscow.

## State aid available for tin mining

### INDUSTRY

More could not have been done by the Government in the last few weeks to try to resolve the position of the Cornish tin mining industry, Mr Peter Morrison, Minister of State for Trade and Industry, said in reply to a private notice question in the Commons.

Mr Morrison (Truro, L) raised the issue by asking for a statement on the Government's intention for the future of the industry.

Mr Morrison: The Government has made it clear it is willing to consider applications for state aid towards the cost of projects which will make the mines competitive in a free tin market.

An application from Geevor Tin Mines is already being considered. An application from the Rio Tinto Zinc Group is expected shortly. Both will be assessed as rapidly as possible.

Mr David Harris (St Ives, C) said there was a desperate situation at Geevor where if the pumps were not switched off, if that happened the mine would be flooded never to reopen. Could not the Government provide assistance to keep the pumps going at least until the mine was dried out?

Mr Morrison said the Government accepted the need to move as fast as possible and on that would depend whether or not there could be care and maintenance work.

Mr Stanley Crowther (Rothwell, Lab) said it would be disgraceful if a British industry which contributed many millions of pounds a year to the economy were allowed to die for lack of help from the Government.

Mr Morrison said the Government was looking carefully at the applications to see whether they could meet the test of viability. More care could not be taken.

Mr Robin Maxwell-Hyslop (Tiverton, C) said the problem of the test of viability was that it depended on the movement of world prices of tin maybe four or five years ahead and that figure could not be predicted. Would it not be possible for the Government to take a risk to support employment rather than suffering unemployment?

Mr Morrison said that if there was to be investment in any of the mines in Cornwall it must be aimed at reducing the cost of production.

During question time in the House of Lords Lord Lucas of Chilworth, Under Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, said assistance would be commensurate with future operations being viable. It was not the Government's policy to provide operating subsidies.

## Chief Secretary outlines stamp duty changes

### FINANCE BILL

The stamp duty on American depositary receipts is to be only 1.5 per cent instead of the 5 per cent proposed in the Budget. Mr John MacGregor, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, announced when he moved second reading of the Finance Bill in the Commons. He said that the rate of 1.5 per cent would apply from March 19. The charge on loan stock is also being dropped.

He said that the concern was only to protect the tax revenue and not to discourage American investment in British

companies.

He also announced that the Government had decided to remove the constraint imposed by the Bank Act preventing companies from financing themselves by issuing sterling commercial paper — sterling debt securities of less than one year maturity. The establishment of such a market should be a useful alternative to borrowing, he said, and extend the range of sterling markets available in London to investors.

Mr MacGregor said that the lowering of interest rates by major building societies and banks would be a direct help to the eight million home owners with mortgages and would contribute to reduced inflation rates.

The prospect now (he said) is for low inflation combined with sustainable growth.

The most important change in the Finance Bill for most taxpayers was the reduction of basic income tax rates. The Government's objective had been and remained to reduce the burden of income tax to apply at all levels of income.

Labour proposals, apart from increasing the severity of capital taxation and reintroducing investment surcharge, would also mean imposing a 70 per

cent tax rate on all taxable income above £18,000. That was hardly the way to retain incentives in the economy and encourage enterprise and risk-taking. If Labour ever returned to power their commitment would be a job destroyer.

The proposal for a 1 per cent cut in basic rate was relatively modest. The overall effect of this year's changes was not considerable but the cumulative effect of successive Conservative budgets was very considerable. The income tax receipts in 1986-87 would be £8 billion lower than if the rates and allowances of 1979 had been indexed to 1986-87 levels.

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## Prison officers urged to call off industrial action

### DISPUTE

A circular will be issued tomorrow (Wednesday) to the courts containing advice on the implications for them of the dispute with the Prison Officers' Association. Mr Douglas Hard, the Home Secretary, announced in a statement in the Commons. I will consider the added further measures which may be necessary.

He made a further appeal to prison officers to look at the package of proposals he had placed before them and to judge whether it was worth throwing that away by taking further industrial action. The Government would not conduct talks under such a continuing threat in this vital public service.

The sort of industrial action already seen at Gloucester Prison was unacceptable. The Government would take all possible steps to sustain the right of governors to manage their prisons and to protect prisoners and public from the consequences of POA action.

Prison officers deserved to be well paid, but the heavy burden of overtime must be lightened and there must be increased efficiency. Progress towards final discussions about a range of new systems designed to meet all these objectives was being made when the call for industrial action went out.

Mr Gerald Kaufman, chief Opposition spokesman on home affairs, said prison officers carried out a dirty and dangerous job in increasingly difficult conditions caused by the collapse of the Government's law and order policy and by the record crime wave which had produced a huge increase in the prison population and unprecedented overcrowding.

Why not agree that there was a proper and sensible role for prison officers in deciding safe staffing levels, particularly since the POA had offered to instruct its members to take no further action while talks were going on? It was a sensible way to solve the difficulties.

Mr Hard said the neglect the prison service was suffering was the neglect of previous governments to do anything about prison conditions. The Government had staffed over and above the increase in prison population.

We were (he continued) very near agreement last week. We wrote on what he is talking about — the role of the POA in being consulted about staffing levels. I wrote them a letter and they wrote back indicating they were very near to what they had in mind.

Then (he went on) industrial action followed. They said they would be willing to suspend it, but it was not suspended. In those circumstances, discussions can only fruitfully take place if the whole problem of industrial action is resolved by their callin.

Mr Sally Oppenheim (Gloucester, C): While deplo-

ing the militant action that has taken place, I ask him to bear in mind the prison officers in Gloucester have been under considerable pressure as a result, among other things, of the presence of a special unit in the prison. At least one prisoner is suffering from Aids.

They have a long history of fine service, of non-militancy, and I hope he will bear this in mind when discussions resume. Will he give an undertaking he will take whatever steps necessary if things get out of hand to protect the citizens of Gloucester?

Mr Hard: Yes, I do not believe there is any threat to the security of Gloucester prison. Not only

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**By Lucy Hodges, Education Correspondent**

The Isis figures show an increase of almost 5,000 pu-

Almost 20 per cent more children received help with

also the widening gap in resources between the independent and maintained sectors.

Evidence is growing that managements are deliberately



## Baker backs Raleigh training expedition

Merseyside, Hull and London before, will be sponsored through a £300,000 government urban programme. They will be led through a far more difficult to deal with than the real jungle."

Recruitment will be completed in July and the operation will start next year.

In particular, the vocabulary of scientists in this field contains increasing reference

Other natural substances being made include Factor VIII, the substance in the blood that stimulates clotting of blood and is absent in

A 12-degree ramp will be fitted to improve take-off and

The refit will mean considerable improvement to the accommodation for the ship's

scheduled time for the rent and added: "I have set a target some weeks shorter than that period."

**By a Special Correspondent**

which is extremely sensitive to changes in magnetic field.

The Soviet scientists believe the equipment and techniques introduced by them could also

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Soviet nuclear disaster: ● What went wrong ● Radiation threat ● Regional fury

# Gigantic reactor 'kettle' that became a killer

By Pearce Wright  
Science Editor

At least some of the fuel in the core of the stricken Soviet nuclear reactor at Chernobyl has disintegrated, radioactive substances monitored in Sweden, Finland and Denmark indicate.

The extent of the damage is still a matter of speculation, but there are strong indications that the fuel has all melted — the radioactive elements detected include substances like neptunium, which are not very volatile.

They would come only from a hot vapour, given off by a molten pool of fuel.

A fire of graphite was still blazing yesterday at the power station, north of Kiev, and in an unprecedented move Moscow sought help from safety experts in Sweden and West Germany.

The advice from Mr. Frederic Reich, of the Swedish Nuclear Safety Inspectorate, was to ask Britain for help.

Swedish safety engineers told the Russians that the only organization with experience in fighting a graphite fire in a nuclear reactor was the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority.

That experience came at Windscale in 1957, when the atomic pile for making weapons plutonium caught light.

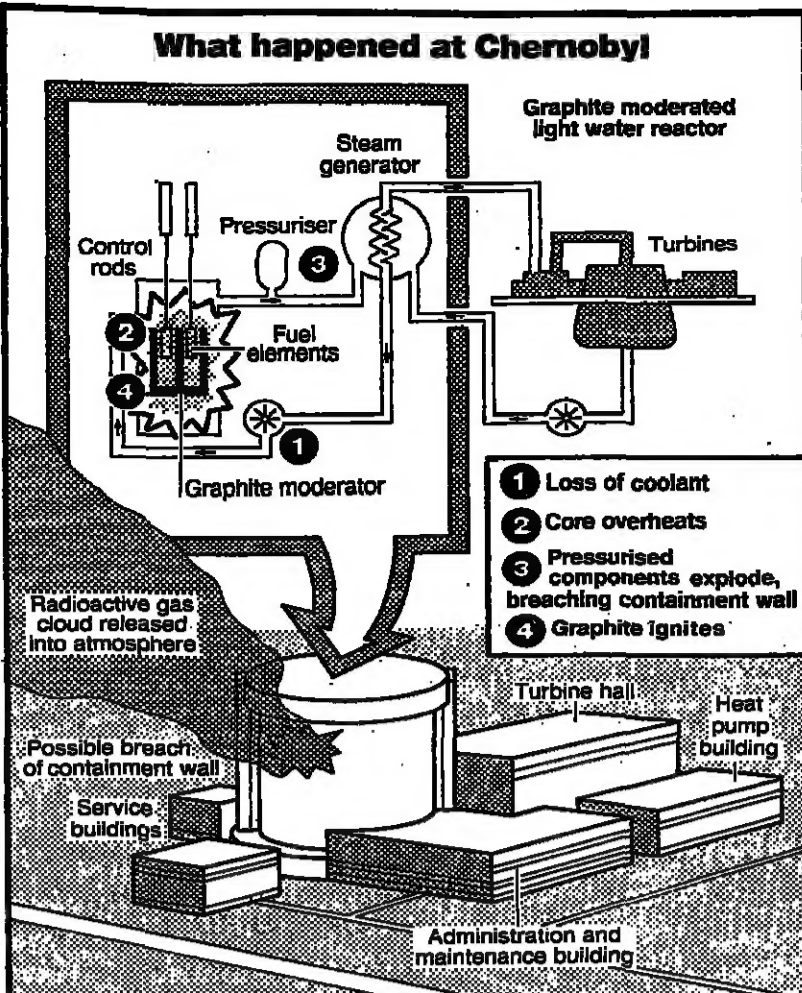
But circumstances at Chernobyl have gone far beyond the extent of that accident.

The reactor which caused the trouble was, like that of all atomic power stations, just a gigantic kettle. It used the heat generated when atoms of uranium were split to boil water, which in turn produced steam to turn electrical turbines.

However, there are at least six main types of thermal nuclear reactors, of very different design, affecting their safety characteristics.

The type which has exploded is used only in the Soviet Union. It differs markedly from the version of the same family that the Russians export.

The type involved is called



How the accident happened (left) and film footage from a French television station showing the exterior of the Chernobyl power station in the Ukraine at the time the plant was opened



a graphite-moderated light-water reactor. It boils water, which is carried through a core of uranium fuel.

The core also includes rods of graphite, which are used to control the nuclear reactions, because the graphite slows down neutrons.

Another choice is to use water as a moderator, as in the American type of pressurized-water reactors.

The other choice is in the way the heat is removed to the steam generators. Whereas water is used in the Russian model, the British power stations use gas cooling.

The combination of graphite moderator and water cool-

ing makes the Russian type different from any other choice of design in the commercial electricity generating field.

It is not clear why the reactor should have overheated and caught fire. A rupture of the water supply system would cause a sudden rise in the temperature of the core. But the presence of graphite should have given the operators some time to regain control when getting an emergency water supply into operation.

An inevitable rise in temperature without cooling ends in the fuel elements rupturing and spilling out radioactive

gases. These gases carry more than 10 per cent of the radioactive waste that has built up in the fuel, amounting to a total of 10 billion curies of radioactivity. It is vital that these gases should not be allowed to escape.

In the American type of water reactors a system of double-walled buildings act to contain the release. This kept the worst nightmare from happening at the Three Mile Island plant in the US. The inner wall was absent in the Russian plant.

If all the iodine escaped over a 24-hour period, the thyroid dose to adults at a

distance of 10 miles down wind is estimated at more than 40,000 rems, and 1,200 rems at about 150 miles.

There is a high probability of a person very quickly suffering thyroid cancer from a dose of 1,000 rems.

In the early 1950s the UK Atomic Energy Authority rejected the Russian reactor designs. But it was a route taken by the Americans, although changed later.

The reason for Britain's rejection was that for safety purposes even a reactor one-fifth the size of the Russian one could not be built within 50 miles of a town of population of 50,000.

## Accident a blow to expanding energy industry

From Christopher Walker, Moscow

The disasters at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant north of Kiev have come as a blow to the fast-expanding Soviet nuclear energy industry. It is due to double its present capacity by the end of the Kremlin's new five-year plan in 1990.

In addition to the frightening human repercussions, diplomats last night were beginning to estimate the possible economic consequences to the state, where nuclear energy has been heralded as the white hope in the face of stagnating domestic oil production.

Encouraged by the lack of internal anti-nuclear protests and assisted by a sizeable industry specializing in the manufacture of nuclear reactor components, the Soviet Union has developed one of the most active nuclear construction programmes in the world, with nearly 30 plants destined for construction in the next decade.

A number of the new plants are under construction near large centres of population, including the Ukrainian town of Kharkov and Odessa on the Black Sea. Only two years ago, the then Minister of Power and Electrification, Mr Petr Neporozhny, said: "Such stations are very economical and can be built in the immediate vicinity of a city because they do not emit smoke and are totally safe."

Western experts in Moscow have often expressed concern at the Soviet nuclear safety record and intelligence analysts believe that the authorities have covered up at least three nuclear accidents since 1954, when Russia became the first country to use nuclear power to generate electricity for commercial purposes.

The worst is believed to have occurred in an area just east of the Urals in late 1957 or early 1958, and Western sources believe that the area may still be suffering from the effects of contamination.

Lessons for Russia, page 12.

Magazine hailed plant as safe

New York (Reuters) — The Chernobyl nuclear power plant was hailed by an official Soviet magazine in February as being a model of safety.

Soviet Life, printed an eight-page article in its US edition which described the plant and its four reactors as being totally safe.

It read in part: "Even if the

Poor attention to safety is attributed to a number of factors including complacency encouraged by the political system, the obsessive secrecy which still surrounds the nuclear energy programme and pressing demands from the central planners for more speed in construction.

It was not until the early 1980s that any internal debate about the potential hazards began, with a growing number of academics expressing their concern in the official press.

An example of the problems came in 1982 when the chief engineer of the Balakovo plant was quoted by *Sovetskaya Rossiya* as telling a supplier: "We examined your pipes with ultrasound — complete junk. There are even defects that can be seen with the naked eye. Moreover, the metal is not of the specification called for in the plant. After all, it is a nuclear plant."

Although there are differences over official figures, the most widely accepted show that 39 reactors are now in use inside Russia, most without containment vessels to trap escaping radiation.

This crucial safety device, widely used in the West, is understood to have been incorporated in the new plants under construction here.

Nuclear power is now responsible for 11 per cent of the Soviet Union's national electricity output, or 170,000 million kilowatts and is due under the new five-year plan to provide 20 per cent of planned output by 1990.

The dismal performance of the oil production industry — where a number of senior officials have recently been sacked or reprimanded — is seen in the West as the main explanation for the great enthusiasm being shown by Mr Mikhail Gorbachev, the Soviet leader, for large-scale investment in new nuclear plants.

It took nearly 24 hours before the Finnish authorities themselves revealed that they had measured higher than normal levels of radioactivity in the country.

Radioactivity decreased in Finland yesterday thanks to a brisk northerly wind, which drove the clouds south. The highest level of radiation was recorded on Sunday evening in Kajaani, central Finland, near the Soviet border.

OSLO: Radiation levels over eastern Norway were said to be decreasing yesterday, although in the absence of heavy rain or a change in wind direction the improvement was as yet slight (Tony Samstag writes).

The populations of both Norway and Denmark reacted calmly, although some panic buying of iodine tablets was reported in Copenhagen.

It was at Forsmark, a power station north of Stockholm with three boiling water reactors, that the first Western traces of radioactivity from the Soviet disaster were found.

It was first thought the radiation came from a leak in Forsmark itself and the plant was evacuated. But the evacuation took too long according to union leaders, who yesterday called for revised safety procedures.

At Oskarshamn, where Mrs Dahl opened the waste storage unit yesterday, there are three boiling water reactors.

Sweden's fourth nuclear plant is at Ringhals, near the west coast port of Gothenburg.

## Students say life normal in Kiev

By Peter Davenport

Officials of a British company specializing in student language tours to the Soviet Union said yesterday they were closely monitoring developments in the Ukrainian capital of Kiev, 50 miles from the Chernobyl nuclear power station.

Earlier this month they sent a group of 90 students, mainly from British universities but also including several from the United States, France, Denmark, Canada and Switzerland on a three-month visit to the Kiev State Institute for Foreign Languages.

Yesterday Mr Landon Temple, managing director of the company, Progressive Tours based in London said: "We are monitoring the situation in Kiev very closely but as of now we have no reason to change our plans for the students to stay until June 27."

He said that parents of some of the students, most of whom are in their first year at university, had telephoned the offices of the company in Portchester Place, seeking reassurance after hearing of the power station accident which may well be the world's worst nuclear installation incident.

Mr Temple said that he had managed to speak to one of the students in Kiev yesterday and contrary to some reports of plans to evacuate areas around the Chernobyl site, life in Kiev itself appeared normal.

The company had also received a text from the Soviet Sputnik Youth and Travel Organization saying there was no cause for concern.

The Soviet Ministry for Foreign Affairs also said there was no reason for tourists not to visit Kiev or nearby cities.

Mr Temple added that the company had checked on availability of aircraft for charter in Kiev should the need arise to bring students home early.

One hundred members of the London Festival Ballet are due to fly to the Soviet Union at the weekend on a three-week British Council-sponsored tour in which they will play performances in Moscow, Leningrad and Vilnius, in Lithuania.

A spokesman for the British Council said yesterday they were in constant touch with the Foreign Office and last night the tour remained on.

Finns are furious at delay

From Olli Kivinen, Helsinki

Anger was mounting in Finland yesterday in the wake of the Chernobyl nuclear disaster because the Russians were extremely slow in warning their Scandinavian neighbour of the leak.

It took nearly 24 hours before the Finnish authorities themselves revealed that they had measured higher than normal levels of radioactivity in the country.

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## US offers technical assistance

From Mohsin Ali, Washington

The US yesterday formally told the Soviet Union it is ready to give humanitarian and technical assistance following the accident at the Chernobyl atomic energy station.

Mrs Rozanne Ridgway, Assistant Secretary for European Affairs, summoned Mr Oleg Sokolov, the Soviet Charge d'Affaires here, to express "deep regret" at the accident on behalf of President Reagan, the State Department spokesman announced.

He said the US hoped the Soviet Union would provide information about the accident in "a timely manner". The US was seeking additional information and requested the closest possible coordination among all concerned countries.

The spokesman said: "We hope casualties and material damage are minimal," but he could give no details.

He declined to answer when asked whether US "spy satellites" had detected the accident and other activities related to it.

Mr Donald Rogan, the White House Chief of Staff, said while travelling with President Reagan to Bali that the Administration had no details on possible loss of life. "All I can say is we are monitoring it the same as everybody else."

Offering US help to the Russians, he said: "We have a lot of experience in how we can handle these things both medically and scientifically."

Mr Larry Speakes, the White House spokesman, said later that President Reagan had been briefed on the accident by Mr George Shultz, the Secretary of State, and by Admiral John Poindexter, his National Security Adviser. The Russians had not independently notified the White House through diplomatic channels.

The accident has aroused intense speculation and interest here and has refuelled the controversy over safeguards for American nuclear energy.

## France ready to help treat victims

Paris (UPI) — France yesterday offered to help the Soviet Union treat those contaminated by radiation from the nuclear power plant disaster.

M. Francois Cogne, director of the Institute of Protection and Nuclear Safety of the Atomic Energy Commission, said Moscow had not asked France to help in what was believed to have been either a fire at the four-reactor plant or a reactor meltdown.

M. Cogne said France had been treating victims of nuclear accidents since 1958.

## Chernobyl survivors face early death

By Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent

Victims of the Chernobyl nuclear disaster who received huge doses of radiation will be at risk of premature death for weeks, months and years to come, nuclear health experts said yesterday.

Some may have only days to live, while others will suffer from "Hiroshima syndrome" succumbing to cancer decades later. Some unborn children may develop hereditary diseases or severe mental retardation.

The immediate effects on those who survived the explosion and fire are likely to involve the destruction of bone marrow through irradiation, which in turn destroys the individual's immune system, leaving the body vulnerable to infection.

They would be likely to die about a month from now, from infections such as pneu-

monia, as would persons who were within a few miles of the site at the time of the accident. After a few more weeks, others are at risk of liver or kidney failure.

As many as half of all those who were exposed to very high levels of radiation are likely to die within the next 60 days.

Pregnant women could give birth to children suffering from genetic diseases or severe mental handicap. Women who are between two and four months pregnant are considered to be most at risk.

The longer-term effects include the development of leukaemia and cancers of the thyroid, lungs and breast.

Western experts are unable to assess accurately the health consequences of the catastrophe until they receive more detailed information about the amounts of radiation to which those at Chernobyl and the surrounding area were exposed.

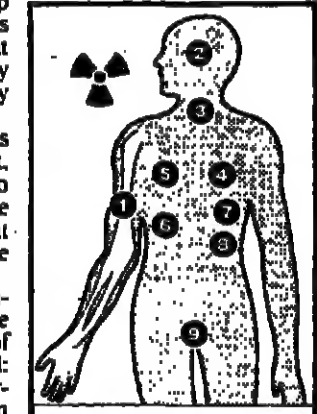
But they know from the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki in 1945 that survivors began to develop forms of leukaemia five years later on a rising graph that reached its peak in the early 1960s and has subsequently declined.

Solid tumours, such as those that affect the breast, lungs and thyroid, began to appear 10 years after the bombs were dropped, and that increased incidence of the disease is still continuing.

Dr Mike Thorne, the scientific secretary in Britain of the International Commission of Radiological Protection, said: "We need much more information about the radiation levels at Chernobyl before we can assess accurately the full consequences to individuals."

"The most optimistic thing that can be said is that the results of a nuclear accident are nowhere near as bad as the effects of a nuclear bomb."

Power stations are designed to do as little damage as possible to those within range of them.



Likely targets of radiation poisoning

## Bonn puts scientists on standby

From Frank Johnson, Bonn

West Germany yesterday offered to place experts and equipment from its highly advanced nuclear power industry at the disposal of the Soviet Union, but officials said here that such help can only be deployed effectively if the Soviet Union gives more details of the accident.

The first visit to the Foreign Office here of Mr Yuli Kvitsinsky, the new Soviet Ambassador, was brought forward to yesterday so that the accident could be discussed.

He accepted the offer of West German help, but appeared to be unable to give the details of details which would enable the West Germans to decide what sort of accident it was, and what kind of assistance was needed.

It was thought possible that Mr Kvitsinsky had not himself been fully informed.

The Minister of the Interior, Herr Friedrich Zimmermann, called the Soviet delay in reporting the accident, and the subsequent lack of detail, "unacceptable". He gave assurances that West German government scientists would be carrying out tests throughout the days ahead on radiation levels here.

The Government's view, for the time being, is that, partly because of the winds, Germany is not in danger.

The Minister of Science, Herr Heinz Riesenhuber, said that West German reactors were more advanced than those in the Soviet Union and "absolutely secure".

He said that the International Atomic Energy Agency in Vienna should now conduct a test of Soviet reactor standards.

## World agency warns of return to oil

Paris (Reuters) — Industrialized nations must carry on generating nuclear power in order to safeguard their independence in energy production, Miss Heide Steeg, the International Energy Agency (IEA) director, said yesterday.

Miss Steeg was speaking in Paris, where the 21-nation agency, which co-ordinates energy policy to try to ensure supplies, has its headquarters. She said she had no new information on the Ukraine accident.

She said the IEA member countries "cannot forego the possibility of nuclear power generation". Otherwise they would slip back into dependence on oil supplies from the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC).

She added that the governments of Western industrialized countries worked closely together on nuclear safety standards.

"Operating safety is no problem here," she said. Asked whether there was a danger of IEA members becoming too dependent on Soviet natural gas supplies if competitive oil prices delayed or prevented the development of new gas fields, Miss Steeg said it was agency policy not to be overdependent on any one supplier.

"Gas supplies of European countries up to the middle of the 1990s are already broadly secured by contracts with the Soviet Union, the Dutch, Norway, and, to a lesser extent, the Algerians," she said.

She said negotiations were continuing over the development of Norway's giant Troll gas field in the North Sea.

● BONN: West Germany's anti-nuclear Greens party called for the closure of all nuclear power stations, saying the Soviet disaster had shown

atomic power was too dangerous to be used.

The Greens are spearheading protests against construction of West Germany's first nuclear reprocessing plant in Wackersdorf, Bavaria, and news of the Soviet accident appeared certain to fuel opposition to the project.

The party is the only one in West Germany to oppose outright the use of nuclear power.

● MANILA: President Aquino will convene her Cabinet today to rule on a proposal to scrap the Philippines' first nuclear power plant, her spokesman, Mr Rene Saguisag, said here (AFP reports).

The \$2.1 billion (£1.35 billion) 620-megawatt plant in Bataan province, west of here was built by the US firm Westinghouse over an eight-year period under the regime of former president Marcos.

## Swedes angered by Moscow's failure to issue warning

From Christopher Mosey, Stockholm

As radioactivity from the Soviet nuclear disaster began to diminish here yesterday, anger mounted at Moscow's failure to alert the Nordic area to the dangers of radiation spreading from the Ukraine.

Mrs Birgitta Dahl, the Minister for Energy, faced protesters from anti-nuclear demonstrators when she opened an underground storage facility for spent nuclear fuel at the Oskarshamn nuclear plant in southern Sweden.

She said she took it for granted that Moscow would now allow international control of its civil nuclear programme. She indicated that Sweden had been unsuccessful in past attempts to pressure Soviet authorities to increase safety requirements.

Dagens Nyheter, the leading



Mrs Dahl, confident of improved safety measures.

Swedish daily, yesterday criticized nuclear safety measures taken by Stockholm to deal with fallout from the Soviet disaster. "Preparedness for incidents at nuclear plants must be reviewed," it said.

Radiation from the disaster was first registered automatically by two measuring instruments at the National Defence Research Institute in Stockholm at 2pm on Sunday. But this was not known until staff arrived for work on Monday morning, as the institute is not manned at weekends.

Mr Curt Bergman, of the Defence Ministry research establishment, said radioactivity in Sweden had halved overnight but was still between 10 and 100 times the normal level. He said this did not mean it had stopped emanating from the Ukraine but had merely ceased reaching Sweden.

For radiation to endanger health it would have to be 10,000 times the normal level, he said.

Mr John Christer Lindhe, spokesman for the Swedish

Radiation Protection Institute, said that at one place in central Sweden where it rained yesterday, radioactivity in the rainwater had reached 100 times the normal level and residents were advised not to use it.

Measurements taken at Sweden's Forsmark nuclear power plant yesterday showed 1,000 units per square metre of iodine 131 and 30,000 units per square metre of Neptunium 239. Normally there would be no measurement of either substance.

A spokesman for the Swedish Institute for Radiation Protection said radiation extended roughly from the town of Gäddede down to Nyköping on the east coast and inland a few miles. Radiation was also detected on the Baltic Island of Gotland.

The Soviet disaster has

reactivated a bitter controversy in Sweden over its own nuclear power programme.

In a national referendum held in 1980, Sweden voted that its nuclear programme be limited to 12 reactors and that these be phased out after 25 years.

The referendum effectively depoliticized the nuclear issue, which in 1978 led to the resignation of Mr Thorbjörn Fälldin, the then Prime Minister and a staunch opponent of nuclear power.

But, at the time, the People's Campaign Against Nuclear Power — which led the fight against Sweden's "peaceful atom" programme — announced a new fight aimed at reminding the public of nuclear hazards.

In the wake of Chernobyl, it has been vocal in denouncing the use of nuclear power.

Sweden's 12 reactors are located at four plants, the most controversial of which is at Barseback, across the narrow sound from the Danish capital of Copenhagen.

It was at Forsmark, a power station north of Stockholm with three boiling water reactors, that the first Western traces of radioactivity from the Soviet disaster were found.

It was first thought the radiation came from a leak in Forsmark itself and the plant was evacuated. But the evacuation took too long according to union leaders, who yesterday called for revised safety procedures.

At Oskarshamn, where Mrs Dahl opened the waste storage unit yesterday, there are three boiling water reactors.

Sweden's fourth nuclear plant is at Ringhals, near the west coast port of Gothenburg.



### From Our Own Correspondent, Brussels

But there is still the danger of a trade war breaking out once the summit is over. The US had originally planned to

**From Our Own Correspondent, Brussels**

They were unable to agree on which of the many factors causing what Mr Lawson

**From Ray Kennedy**

● **LONDON:** The Commonwealth "eminent persons group" on South Africa are to meet here today to consider whether a message they have been sent by President Botha is sufficiently constructive for them to pay a second visit to South Africa next month (Nicholas Ashford writes).

However, several witnesses have identified him as a man who came running into a cinema near the murder spot in central Stockholm shortly after the assassination.

Yesterday, experts examined a ventilation grille in the cinema's toilet. Police said: "Someone may have placed a revolver there and fetched it away when things were quiet."

## Chess referee



**From Michael Hamlyn  
Delhi**

He was flanked by Dr Muhammad Najibullah, the former head of the secret police force, Khad, and a member of the party secretariat, and Mr Noor Ahmad Noor, a member of the Politburo. The keynote address was made by Mr Nazar Muhammad, the Minister of Defence.

A second bomb exploded in the business centre of Santiago. Police said four women were injured. Two hours earlier, a blast in a University of Santiago arts building injured a guard and shattered 50 windows.

**From Ahmed Fazl, Dhaka**

was the first leading member of a political party to be killed in this week's campaign unrest.

Meanwhile, hundreds of thousands of people turned out yesterday in Dhaka, chanting slogans against the elections.

Local police said that about 25 members of the outlawed Sarbahara Party staged a bank holdup and looted about 300,000 taka (\$6,500), shooting dead two people and injuring 50 others while fleeing.

Tehran (AFP) — Iran announced yesterday that its troops were advancing on Basra in a new long-awaited offensive from the Fao peninsula where they claimed to have destroyed four Iraqi brigades on Monday night.

Radio Tehran interrupted normal programmes to announce the new offensive on Iraq's second largest city. It said reinforcements had been pouring in to the territory held by Iranian troops, notably across a steel and foam rubber floating bridge over the Shatt al-Arab waterway running along the frontier.

The Iranian news agency claimed that in Monday night's fighting more than 1,000 Iraqi soldiers had been killed or wounded. It added that a surprise attack in the peninsula had paralysed Iraqi forces.

**FIAT**  
 ING NEW STANDARDS



## Sabotage fears as Emperor's 60-year reign is celebrated

From David Watts, Tokyo

Japan's 124th Emperor celebrated his sixtieth year on the Chrysanthemum Throne yesterday as thousands of police stood by on special security duties.

A ceremony of austere formality beneath a spotlighted rising sun flag marked the longest reign of any emperor in a dynasty believed the oldest in the world.

The first 14 emperors are now thought to have been mythical figures but the next in line, Emperor Ojin, is believed to have ruled from the late fourth century.

Six thousand guests, including sportsmen and women, politicians and personalities from the arts world, saw Emperor Hirohito arrive for the ceremony in perfect spring weather. Neither Empress Nagako nor Crown Princess Michiko was well enough to attend.

In contrast to the vintage of the imperial dynasty the building in which the celebrations were held is one of the newest in Tokyo.

Police were stationed every 5ft around the site and all

roads were sealed off in fear of attacks by radical leftists who have pledged to smash both the imperial celebrations and the summit meeting of seven industrial countries in Tokyo.

In the early hours of yesterday a man was blinded when a bomb went off in the public lavatory of a Tokyo park about two miles from the palace.

Train services were halted for 90 minutes in two places after sabotage attacks claimed by the country's most radical left-wing group Chukaku-ha. Communications cables were burnt at Osaka in the west and on a prestige line in central Japan. Services ran late after the resumption.

The same group has threatened to assassinate both the Emperor and the Prime Minister. Last year Chukaku-ha threw the Tokyo rail system into chaos after simultaneous attacks put several commuter lines out of action.

In a speech of congratulation, Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone, the Prime Minister, said that bonds between Emperor and people had grown stronger and stood the test of history.



Emperor Hirohito thanking people for honouring his rule as riot police (right) guard helmeted leftist protesters.

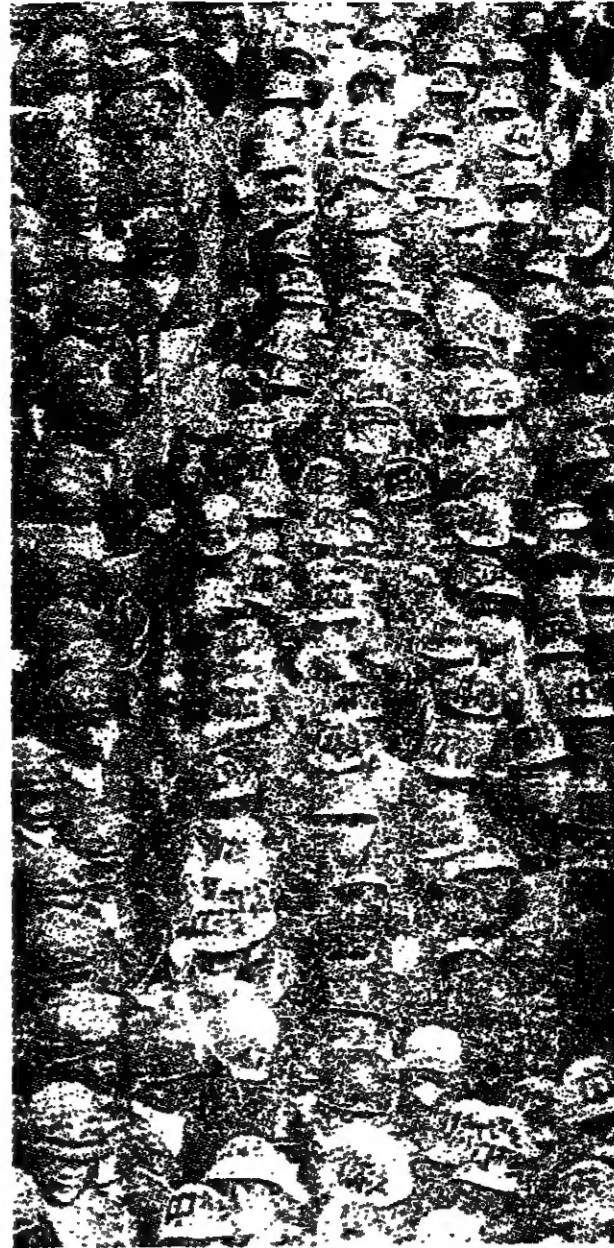
The Emperor, reading from a formal speech in his characteristic high-pitched voice, hoped for peace and the happiness of the world community.

Though the actual date of the anniversary does not fall until December the Government decided to hold the ceremony to coincide with the eighty-fifth birthday of the Emperor which fell yesterday.

Opposition from the Socialist and Communist parties has centred on the Government's

use of the anniversary for political reasons in trying to prolong Mr Nakasone's tenure and boost the ruling Liberal Democratic Party in elections which are due to be held in June.

Rallies in opposition to the celebrations were held all over the country with one of the largest in Tokyo organized by labour and women's groups. The rally called for the public to re-evaluate the relationship between democracy and the imperial system.



### The Reagan tour

## Bali visit soured by expulsion of three journalists

Nusa Dua, Bali (Reuters) — President Reagan, carrying his "Winds of Freedom" message to Indonesia, was garlanded with flowers and welcomed by dancing girls last night at the start of a four-day visit to Bali.

But the start of his visit has been soured by Indonesia's tough attitude to the foreign press.

Indonesia ejected Miss Barbara Crossette, a New York Times correspondent, from Bali and refused to allow in two Australian journalists travelling with the White House press party.

Mr Reagan was greeted by President Suharto of Indonesia after Air Force One touched down on the short runway at Ngurah Rai airport on the tropical island.

Miss Crossette, an American, who is based in Bangkok,

was picked up by Indonesian security men and put on a plane to Jakarta and Bangkok a few hours before Mr Reagan arrived.

She had been denied a visa by the Government and came to Bali as a tourist.

Indonesia also rejected high-level US pleas and stood by a decision not to allow in Mr Jim Middleton and Mr Richard Palfreyman, Australian Broadcasting Corporation journalists.

Mr Edward Djerejian, a deputy White House press spokesman, said that Indonesian security and immigration officials boarded the plane and took them away to an immigration centre. He said there was "virtually no explanation". They would be put on a plane for Tokyo, he added.

## US will maintain interest in Asean

From Michael Binyon, Washington

When President Reagan begins talks tomorrow with the foreign ministers of six South-East Asian nations, he will assure them that the US is determined to remain involved in economic and security matters in the region.

But he will face tough questioning on the growing moves in the US towards protectionism, and the six members of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (Asean) — Singapore, Thailand, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines and Brunei, most with substantial Muslim populations — may also voice sharp disagreement with US policy towards Libya and the Middle East.

Thailand's vote in the UN Security Council against the US attack on Libya has upset Washington deeply.

Regional security will be a main topic, and especially the continued occupation of Cambodia by Vietnamese forces. Before leaving Washington, Mr Reagan said that the refusal of Vietnam to withdraw was damaging its own interests.

"The United States has made it clear that it's ready to participate constructively in an overall settlement," he said. "The Communist Government of Vietnam, however, to the detriment of its own national security, remains intransigent."

The Reagan Administration has supported the non-Com-

munist resistance in Cambodia strongly, but has been careful not to endorse the Khmer Rouge guerrillas.

The President will give continued backing to Asean's efforts to negotiate a settlement, but will insist that Hanoi must accept a commitment to withdraw its forces before Washington restores diplomatic relations.

The Bali meeting comes two months after the change of government in the Philippines, and Washington's backing for democratic and economic revival there will form the background to talks on US defence commitments to its Asian allies.

Mr Reagan, however, will have to use his diplomatic skill to avoid suggesting to his hosts, the Indonesians, that the US is to take a tougher line with other authoritarian but friendly governments.

The booming trade between Asean and the US has made the association America's fifth largest trading partner. US investors now have a stake in the region of over \$10 billion (\$6.5 billion), and US confidence in the region's growth is one reason for the growing so-called "Pacific tilt" in Washington's foreign policy.

The avalanche of Asian exports to the US is causing deep concern in Washington. Last year the US had a total trade deficit with Asean of over \$7.7 billion, about triple the \$2.3 billion total of 1982.

## Pupils lose in Spain's school war

From Richard Wigg, Madrid

More than two and a half million Spanish schoolchildren are likely to miss school all this week as owners of private schools stage what they call a "suspension of activities" in protest at the Socialist Government's new policy on education subsidies.

Señor José María Maravall, the Education Minister, acknowledged yesterday that the effects had been "extensive". The organisers claim that on the first day of their protest 95 per cent of the country's 8,000 privately-run schools closed.

Spain's so-called "schools war" is not about parents' right to send their children to fee-paying schools, but about efforts by Señor Maravall to exercise stricter control over the public funding of such schools, which in many cases cover 100 per cent of the running costs.

At stake in the dispute is a total of 135,000 million pesetas (£630 million) in state subsidies due to be allocated in the new school year.

The funding, particularly in secondary schools, was started by the Franco regime with a minimum of supervision, and the school owners and the parents' associations resent the minister's determination to limit their powers.

The "schools war" has clear ideological undertones. The Socialists are certain to make political capital out of Señor Maravall's reforms in the forthcoming general election as most of the private schools are run by lay organizations of the Catholic Church. Many parents believe their children get a better education in such schools than in the state sector.

Spain's right-wing Opposition, which took Señor Maravall's education law to the Constitutional Court and lost, has eagerly backed the stoppage.

The school owners claim that more than 600 private schools will be denied subsidies by Señor Maravall. But the Education Ministry says that the number would be less than 200.

The owners maintain that the Socialists are trying to "kill off" private schools.

## Norway's PM faces vote test

From Tony Samstag, Oslo

After weeks of economic uncertainty and industrial turmoil, the coalition Government of Mr Kaare Willoch yesterday faced a vote of no-confidence in the Norwegian Parliament. The preliminary debate was expected to last well into the night.

The popular Labour Party leader, Mrs Gro Harlem Brundtland, who was Prime Minister briefly in 1981, will probably be asked to form a new government if the Prime Minister cannot negotiate last-minute approval for his "Easter Package" of austerity budget measures, which attempt to recoup lost revenues resulting from the collapse in oil prices earlier this year.

Late-night meetings between Mr Willoch, coalition members and Opposition leaders have failed to reach agreement, in particular on a rise in petrol taxes.

Mr Willoch has threatened repeatedly to resign over the issue and has denounced as totally unacceptable Labour's demand of a 2 per cent tax increase on higher incomes in return for support of the budget package, which has proved immensely unpopular.

## Audience wait and wait for prison Godots

Stockholm — It was perhaps the ultimate test of Sweden's famously liberal prison system: a national tour by five inmates of the country's top maximum security jail to perform in Samuel Beckett's play *Waiting for Godot* (Christopher Mosey writes).

Their would-be audience is still waiting.

Four out of the five, all drug offenders, absconded through an open dressing room window just before the first night at the City Theatre in Göteborg.

The play's director, Mr Jan Jönsson, said yesterday he had discerned in the "body language" of at least one of the cast "a longing for freedom."

Referring to the content of Beckett's enigmatic play, he said: "Each rehearsal has been like a primal scream for freedom."

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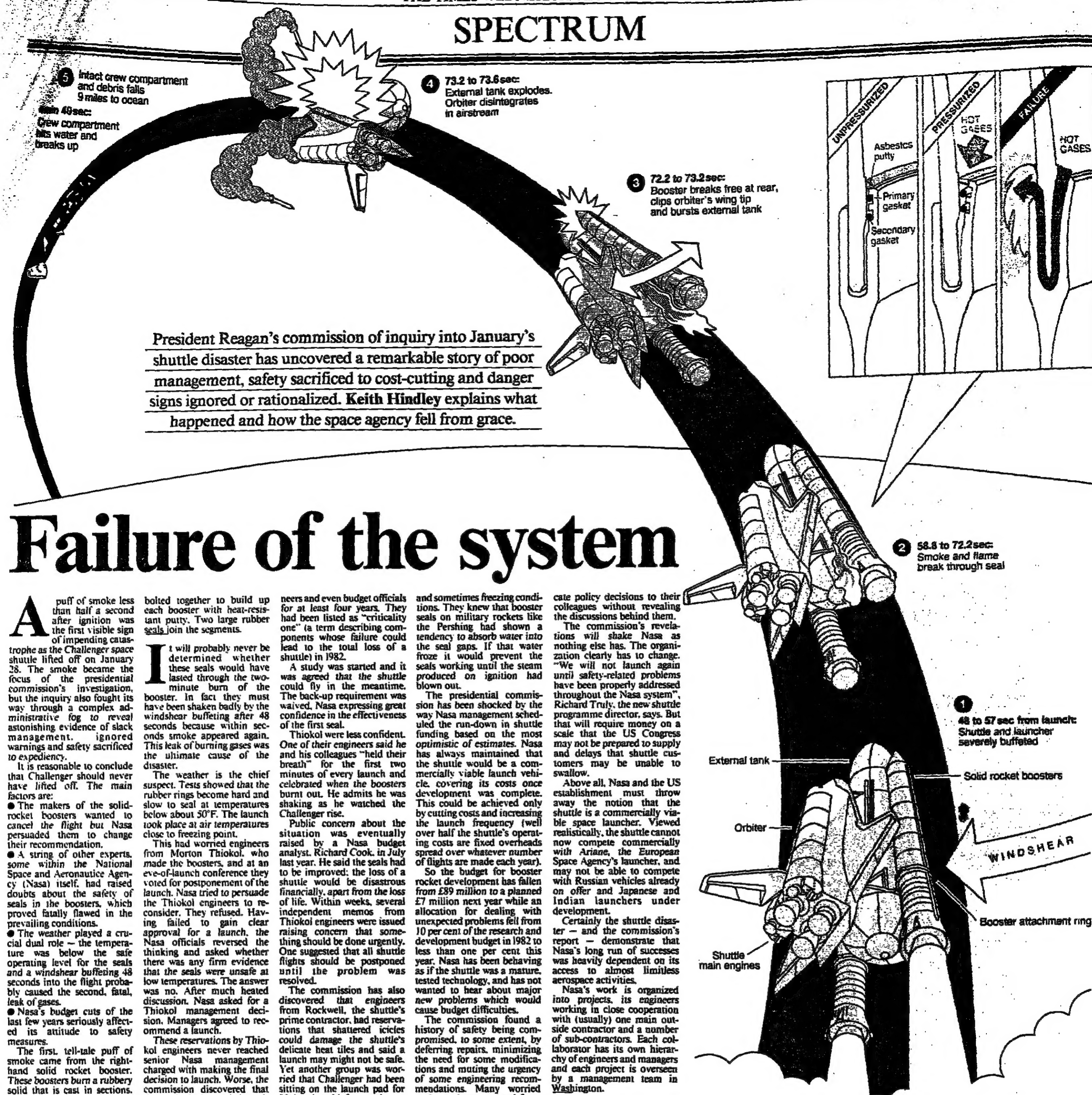
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## SPECTRUM



President Reagan's commission of inquiry into January's shuttle disaster has uncovered a remarkable story of poor management, safety sacrificed to cost-cutting and danger signs ignored or rationalized. Keith Hindley explains what happened and how the space agency fell from grace.

# Failure of the system

A puff of smoke less than half a second after ignition was the first visible sign of impending catastrophe as the Challenger space shuttle lifted off on January 28. The smoke became the focus of the presidential commission's investigation, but the inquiry also fought its way through a complex administrative fog to reveal astonishing evidence of slack management, ignored warnings and safety sacrificed to expediency.

It is reasonable to conclude that Challenger should never have lifted off. The main factors are:

- The makers of the solid-rocket boosters wanted to cancel the flight but NASA persuaded them to change their recommendation.
- A string of other experts, some within the National Space and Aeronautics Agency (NASA) itself, had raised doubts about the safety of seals in the boosters, which proved fatally flawed in the prevailing conditions.
- The weather played a crucial role — the temperature was below the safe operating level for the seals and a windshear buffeting 48 seconds into the flight probably caused the second, fatal, leak of gases.
- NASA's budget cuts of the last few years seriously affected its attitude to safety measures.

The first, tell-tale puff of smoke came from the right-hand solid rocket booster. These boosters burn a rubbery solid that is cast in sections, four of which are stacked and

bolted together to build up each booster with heat-resistant putty. Two large rubber seals join the segments.

It will probably never be determined whether these seals would have lasted through the two-minute burn of the booster. In fact they must have been shaken badly by the windshear buffeting after 48 seconds because within seconds smoke appeared again. This leak of burning gases was the ultimate cause of the disaster.

The weather is the chief suspect. Tests showed that the rubber rings become hard and slow to seal at temperatures below about 50°F. The launch took place at air temperatures close to freezing point.

This had worried engineers from Morton Thiokol, who made the boosters, and at an eve-of-launch conference they voted for postponement of the launch. NASA tried to persuade the Thiokol engineers to reconsider. They refused. Having failed to gain clear approval for a launch, the NASA officials reversed the thinking and asked whether there was any firm evidence that the seals were unsafe at low temperatures. The answer was no. After much heated discussion, NASA asked for a Thiokol management decision. Managers agreed to recommend a launch.

These reservations by Thiokol engineers never reached senior NASA management charged with making the final decision to launch. Worse, the commission discovered that the seals had worried engi-

neers and even budget officials for at least four years. They had been listed as "criticality one" (a term describing components whose failure could lead to the total loss of a shuttle) in 1982.

A study was started and it was agreed that the shuttle could fly in the meantime. The back-up requirement was waived, NASA expressing great confidence in the effectiveness of the first seal.

Thiokol were less confident. One of their engineers said he and his colleagues "held their breath" for the first two minutes of every launch and celebrated when the boosters burnt out. He admits he was shaking as he watched the Challenger rise.

Public concern about the situation was eventually raised by a NASA budget analyst, Richard Cook, in July last year. He said the seals had to be improved: the loss of a shuttle would be disastrous financially, apart from the loss of life. Within weeks, several independent memos from Thiokol engineers were issued raising concern that something should be done urgently. One suggested that all shuttle flights should be postponed until the problem was resolved.

The commission has also discovered that engineers from Rockwell, the shuttle's prime contractor, had reservations that shattered the delicate heat tiles and said a launch might not be safe. Yet another group was worried that Challenger had been sitting on the launch pad for 38 days in cold, frequently wet

and sometimes freezing conditions. They knew that booster seals on military rockets like the Pershing had shown a tendency to absorb water into the seal gaps. If that water froze it would prevent the seals working until the steam produced on ignition had blown out.

The presidential commission has been shocked by the way NASA management scheduled the run-down in shuttle funding based on the most optimistic of estimates. NASA has always maintained that the shuttle would be a commercially viable launch vehicle, covering its costs once development was complete. This could be achieved only by cutting costs and increasing the launch frequency (well over half the shuttle's operating costs are fixed overheads spread over whatever number of flights are made each year).

So the budget for booster rocket development has fallen from \$39 million to a planned \$7 million next year while an allocation for dealing with unexpected problems fell from 10 per cent of the research and development budget in 1982 to less than one per cent this year. NASA has been behaving as if the shuttle was a mature, tested technology, and has not wanted to hear about major new problems which would cause budget difficulties.

The commission found a history of safety being compromised, to some extent, by deferring repairs, minimizing the need for some modifications and muting the urgency of some engineering recommendations. Many worried engineers have emerged from the NASA woodwork in recent weeks.

The commission has learnt that in the case of 740 items where the need for a back-up system was regarded as essential, it was waived. Cutsbacks have even affected management in Washington but always more on the engineering than administrative levels. Milton Silveira, NASA's chief engineer, says his staff has been reduced by a third.

"We're now too short-handed to carry out the job," he says. "We're handling more flights, yet taking manpower cuts. We're just not able to take a close look at everything. The Challenger accident was preventable and budget cuts are partly to blame."

Another problem has been the rivalry between each of the NASA research centres. They are all in competition for funds, and communications between them have faltered as the rivalry grew. All, but especially the Goddard Spaceflight Centre in Huntsville, Alabama, have become secretive and tended to communi-

cate policy decisions to their colleagues without revealing the discussions behind them.

The commission's revelations will shake NASA as nothing else has. The organization clearly has to change. "We will not launch again until safety-related problems have been properly addressed throughout the NASA system", Richard Truly, the new shuttle programme director, says. But that will require money on a scale that the US Congress may not be prepared to supply and delays that shuttle customers may be unable to swallow.

Above all, NASA and the US establishment must throw away the notion that the shuttle is a commercially viable space launcher. Viewed realistically, the shuttle cannot now compete commercially with Ariane, the European Space Agency's launcher, and may not be able to compete with Russian vehicles already on offer and Japanese and Indian launchers under development.

Certainly the shuttle disaster — and the commission's report — demonstrate that NASA's long run of successes was heavily dependent on its access to almost limitless aerospace activities.

NASA's work is organized into projects, its engineers working in close cooperation with (usually) one main outside contractor and a number of sub-contractors. Each collaborator has its own hierarchy of engineers and managers and each project is overseen by a management team in Washington.

In its heyday, during the Apollo moon landing project, NASA built an impressive reputation for sharp, competent management, dealing with the

parade of unforeseen problems that always arise with projects being conducted at the cutting edge of high-technology research.

NASA has always been involved with audacious leaps in high technology since only impressive major projects have any real chance of being funded enthusiastically by the US Congress and Senate.

But in recent years, massive overspending in major projects at a time when annual budgets were falling has removed the freedom from NASA's decision-making process. Everyone is acutely aware that funds are short and problems can no longer be solved by throwing money at them.

Therefore engineers and management have been forced to look at alternative, cheaper solutions — "fix it" rather than "redesign it".

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1 Fuss (5)  
4 Dug (5)  
7 Dipped (4)  
8 Unfamiliar (8)  
9 Sword sheath (8)  
13 P.E. hall (3)  
16 Not discernible (13)  
17 Reels (8)  
19 Arch link (8)  
24 Circle quarter (8)  
25 Desire (4)  
26 Dog house (6)  
27 Below (6)

DOWN  
1 Hazard (4)  
2 Of town (9)  
3 Small firework (5)  
4 Aficionado (5)  
5 Marsh (4)  
6 Poverty stricken (5)  
10 Exposures (5)  
11 Forum (5)  
12 Loved excessively (5)  
13 Double Dutch (9)  
14 Hunt assembly (4)  
15 Galvanised iron (4)  
16 Eggs (5)  
18 Oyster gem (5)  
21 Impossible (3,3)  
22 South Yemen (4)  
23 Lightly burn (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 937  
ACROSS: 1 One-off 5 Post 8 Incept 9 Sapling 11 Frantic 13 Dune 15 Distinguished 17 Nile 18 Lamp-post 21 Ewe-neck 22 Feign 23 Step 24 Entomb  
DOWN: 1 Niece 3 Opt 4 Fishing-tackle 5 Pipe 6 Spinach 7 Dilemma 10 Grandsire 12 Exit 14 Wisp 16 Silent 19 Opium 20 Deep 22 Fit

## COUNTDOWN TO DISASTER



Early warning: less than half a second after ignition, a puff of smoke appears from the right-hand solid rocket booster

58.2 Sharply defined plume of fire appears on side of right-hand SRB.

60.2 Thrust of right-hand SRB begins to fall behind left-hand booster as hot gas leak grows.

60.6 Plume spreads, grows into a large flame.

61.4 Control surfaces on shuttle's wings begin to correct imbalance of thrust from SRBs.

64.9 Shuttle's main motor nozzles turned to correct the thrust imbalance, now grown to more than three per cent (100,000 lbs of thrust). Automatic pilot has ordered these corrections, but the

mission's commander Francis Scobee would by now be aware of a serious problem.

66.2 Bright spots of fire appear around SRB seal, especially on side facing orbiter and external tank.

66.5 Pressure of fuel leaving external tank begins to fluctuate: instruments would make this clear to Scobee. A bright glow, possibly caused by leaking fuel, grows between orbiter and right-hand SRB.

67.7 SRB seal now gone completely, leaving a ring of fire like a spurting shower head.

72.2 Launch vehicle veers to one side as right-hand SRB breaks free of melted rear connection point. SRB swings outwards, attached only near the nose. Red lights flash all over Scobee's control panels.

72.8 Right-hand SRB damages Challenger's right wing tip.

73.1 Rear of stray booster swings out and nose pierces top of external tank near liquid oxygen tank.

73.2 Flames flash forwards along external tank causing massive explosion near oxygen tank.

73.5 Shuttle's number one main engine shuts down due to an overheated fuel turbopump. The other engines begin to follow and Francis Scobee opens up his radio channel to speak to ground control, but ...

73.6 Challenger disintegrates from aerodynamic forces, falling nose down. Cabin structure tumbles free of debris, apparently damaged but intact.

280 Three and a half minutes later, after falling nine miles, cabin hits the ocean and partly disintegrates, killing any of the crew who may have survived the initial explosion.



WEDNESDAY PAGE

# Irish divided by divorce

The announcement last week of a referendum on divorce in the Irish Republic may signal a battle royal between church and state, Richard Ford writes from Dublin

From the team that convulsed the Irish Republic with an anti-abortion amendment and reform of the family planning laws comes the next and probably final battle between church and state: the removal of the constitutional ban on divorce.

The four years since Dr Garret FitzGerald came to power on a wave of support from liberal urban voters have at times seemed like a long-running serial on the question of the Irish and sex. A constitutional amendment forbidding abortion was passed in 1983 after a divisive referendum during which the country was given one huge sex education lesson. Last year a police inquiry into a child's murder turned into the "Kerry babies" case, where attitudes towards adultery, women, sex and illegitimacy came under the spotlight even the modest reform in 1985 of contraceptive laws brought agonizing from the church and its members militant.

But behind the contraceptive issue was the much bigger question of divorce, which Dr FitzGerald is now confronting by means of a referendum, probably in June, to remove the constitutional ban.

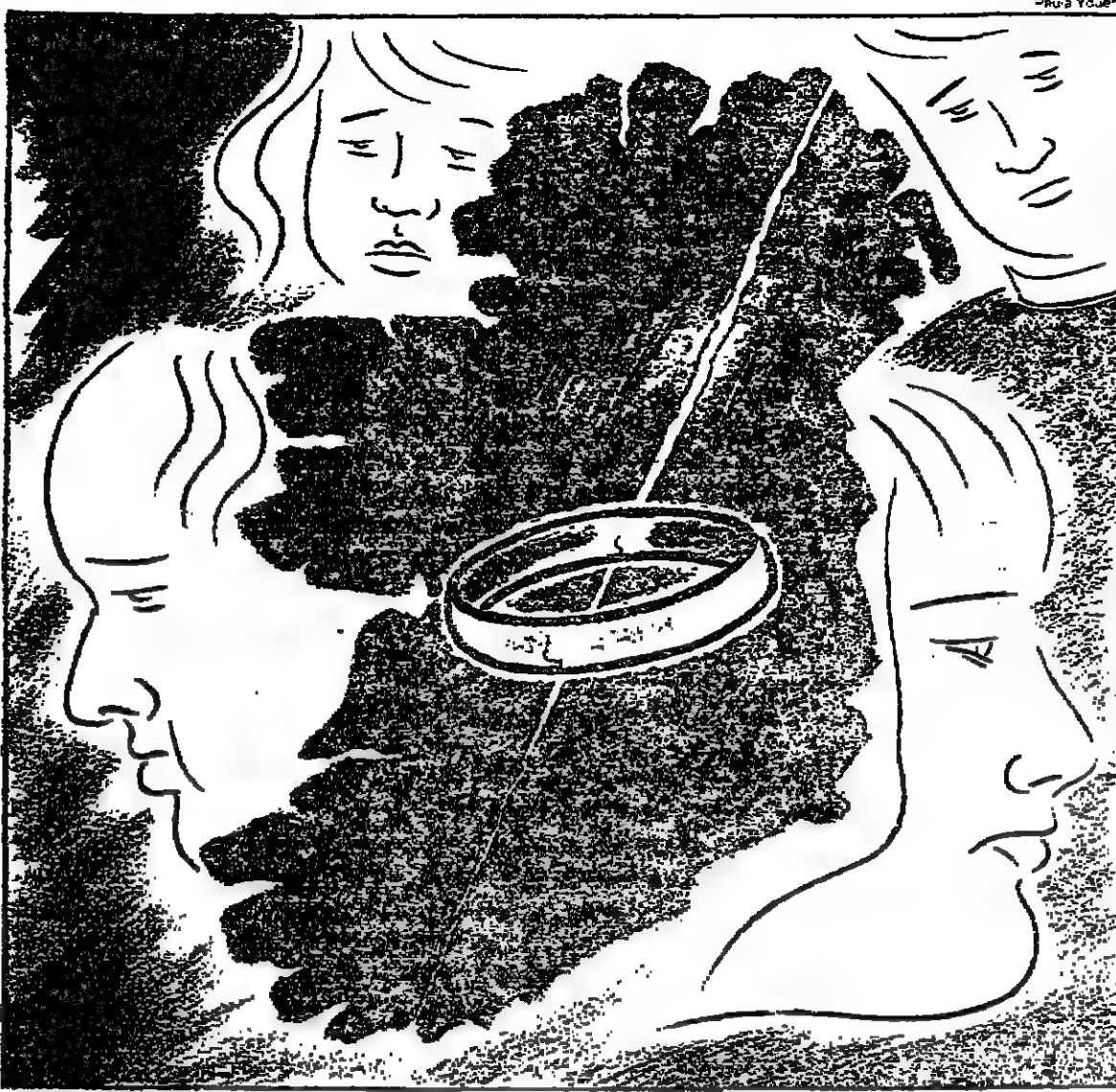
That personal bequest of de Valera to future generations, the written constitution of 1937, states in Article 41 that "no law shall be enacted providing for the grant of a dissolution of marriage". But without divorce, in the words of Mrs Nuala Fennell, a junior government minister, thousands are doomed "to live lonely celibate lives or alternatively join the ranks of irregular relationships within which they are discriminated against under our social welfare and tax codes, forgo legal and succession rights and have their children labelled illegitimate".

Some keep secret from family, neighbours and even priests that they are not married. Others change their name by deed poll and then are those who use ingenuity and a little law-breaking to make it all legitimate.

One couple happily admit to being "bigamists" after countering parental pressure by travelling to Scotland for a register office wedding: the bride remains married to her first husband.

Several options exist for ending a marriage, but all fall short of divorce. A judicial separation acknowledges that the marriage is finished but does not allow remarriage; a civil annulment leaves both partners free to remarry, although the children of that relationship are illegitimate; a church annulment allows partners to remarry although there are on average only about 75 cases each year and the second marriage is not recognized by the state; and a foreign divorce is recognized in the republic only if it is obtained by a man in a country where he intends to spend his life. If a woman goes through the same procedure the divorce is not recognized in the republic.

Foreign divorce was how Brendan (he did not want his real name used) ended his six-year marriage, which began amid high hopes on a package trip to Rome. "The Rome marriage was very acceptable to the family because we were effectively going to Head Office to get married." Two years ago, in order to remarry, he obtained a divorce by claiming he had lived in Britain for a year, although in



fact he only visited Manchester once to sign documents and had no intention of leaving the republic.

Similar "Irish ingenuity" was used for his remarriage a year ago, when he travelled to Northern Ireland, established domicile by signing papers, returned to Dublin and seven days later married in a civil ceremony at Belfast City Hall.

"I was legally divorced in the UK and legally married in the UK, but in the eyes of the Roman Catholic Church I am still married to my first wife and any children of my second relationship will be illegitimate. Marriage is a contract in the eyes of the Irish state but it's the only contract without an out clause and it is time the people of Ireland were allowed such a clause", she says.

For almost 50 years the Irish have lived with the ban, but since the middle 1960s it has been under growing attack. Figures for those affected by marital breakdown are conflicting, with the Divorce Action Group claiming 70,000 in total out of a population of 3.5 million, but social welfare statistics suggesting only 30,000. The discrepancy probably results from a natural reluctance by some people to admit that they are living apart from their spouse, although attitudes in the republic are changing fast. Years ago it would have spelt political suicide for a Taoiseach to suggest a divorce law, but today, even cabinet ministers and backbench MPs can admit to living apart from their wives without too much fear of retribution.

If the referendum approves a change, the government plans to introduce divorce law characterized as restrictive by the pro-divorce lobby but as liberal by Family Solidarity, a nationwide pressure group formed to uphold traditional values.

The divorce proposals would insert into the constitution a law based on the irretrievable breakdown of marriage and attainable only after five years' separation. By inserting the law into the constitution, the Taoiseach is trying to maximize the chances of winning the referendum as it will leave future generations the power to amend

the law and so assuage present public concern about the dangers of rapidly drifting to divorce on demand.

The five-year qualifying condition has been welcomed by the Divorce Action Group for both political and social reasons. One member, Andrea Bridges, separated from her husband for 10 years, says: "As a person who has gone through the separation and who has made another relationship, I would say you need about five years to get over a marriage. I have a few friends who would have been disastrously married twice and even three times if they could have remarried in less than five years."

Since her marriage broke up, Andrea, aged 38, has made a second relationship with Tom Kennedy, a marketing executive, by whom she has had a son, Cian, a brother for the two daughters of her marriage. She refused to accept her solicitor's advice to try for a civil annulment as she was unwilling to say there had never been a marriage or to confine her daughters to the status of being illegitimate.

Under Irish law, Cian has a claim on the estate of Andrea's husband, but not of his real father, and so to ensure security for him they have taken out an insurance policy to be held in trust until he grows up. "But in many similar cases the child would be in limbo if anything happened to the parents", she says.

She wants the divorce so that, in Tom's words, they can marry and put "everything above board". Andrea asked: "Why in Ireland should your husband be tied irrevocably to you when you might hate him?"

Despite offering assistance and guidance to those faced with the trauma of marital breakdown, both the Roman Catholic Church and Family Solidarity will oppose the referendum. The bishops will emphasize the indissolubility of marriage but will widen the issue to include the effect on the family and on children in particular. Aware that support for divorce is growing, the hierarchy is anxious to avoid making the issue a

test of the church's role in Ireland for fear that if it loses, as it did on family planning, it will further weaken and damage the institution.

Bishop Joseph Cassidy insists: "The pulpit will be used but not abused. We do not dictate. We teach and the people are free to follow their own conscience as the final arbiter."

Others suspect that hardliners will be unable to resist using the pulpit to point to the consequences for Ireland and its people if divorce is introduced. The speed with which the government acted, taking the church and Family Solidarity by surprise, was an attempt to settle the issue quickly and prevent priests thundering to their flock Sunday after Sunday.

Although Family Solidarity denies that it is a battle between church and state, Mrs Bernadette Bonnar, a member of its executive, says the referendum will be a "close-run thing". To her the referendum is an opportunity for the people to defend traditional values and culture. "Maybe we can give a lead. This change is for the worse and we must stand up and try and stop it. We would be a worthless nation to do otherwise."

A lifelong Fine Gael supporter, she is contemptuous of Dr FitzGerald, for whom divorce is an issue he cannot lose politically whatever the outcome. He needed to act because a new third party, the Progressive Democrats, has been drawing support from exactly the liberal urban vote that put him in power, and his much trumpeted "constitutional crusade" to remove laws which allowed critics of the republic to say "Rome rules" had produced little. If the referendum is lost the Taoiseach will at least be able to say that he has attempted to live up to his reputation as a "liberal crusader".

The church will live to fight another day, probably aware that it is only delaying divorce. Defeat will deeply disappoint those affected by broken marriages, but as Andrea Bridges says: "We will have our normal Irish solution to an Irish problem. There is no one better than the Irish at finding a way to get round the law."

# Removing the fear of cervical cancer

Innovations in technology and training this week will give women a better chance of early detection

The fear of cervical cancer that touches every woman who has had an abnormal result from a smear test is now becoming increasingly groundless because of improvements in detection and treatment. Several events this week emphasize the progress that is being made.

Today, King's College Hospital, London, receives a donation of £28,000 raised by readers of *Cosmopolitan* magazine to buy seven colposcopes, the equipment which accurately identifies the first signs of cancer of the cervix. It is fast becoming an essential item in hospitals and clinics throughout Britain.

Tomorrow, two groups of gynaecologists will enrol in the latest of a series of intensive courses to train them in the use of the colposcope. Hundreds of their fellow specialists have already mastered the technique and are now using it for the benefit of many thousands of women.

Each year in Britain, more than 4,000 women are diagnosed as having cervical cancer, half of them die. Seventy per cent of the cases, and 85 per cent of the deaths, are in women aged over 45. But there has been a worrying increase in fatalities in women under 35, even though more than a million and a half women in this age group have a smear test each year.

## Computers could improve screening

The two priorities, therefore, must be for more extensive screening of women at risk, and greater application by doctors of the latest methods to identify and treat cervical abnormalities that could develop into cancer.

An overhaul of the existing, much-criticized cervical screening programme is already under way, and the introduction of a national computerized system should soon lead to more frequent testing and better safeguards.

For women whose tests require further investigation, the path chosen by more and more specialists is colposcopy, followed if necessary by laser treatment to eradicate potentially cancerous cervical tissue.

The colposcope is a type of microscope which allows about 20-times magnification to identify very accurately and assess any problem areas of the cervix. The procedure takes about 15 minutes and is virtually painless. The examining clinician may take at the same time a sample of cervical tissue for analysis.

The colposcope was invented in Hamburg in the early 1920s but did not begin to find a place in British medicine until the late 1970s. It is now used by more than 600 specialists in British hos-

pitals and clinics but some leading gynaecologists believe that there is a need for yet more training in its use. *Cosmopolitan* launched a campaign to fund colposcopes because of its concern over the links between genital warts - an increasingly common symptom of sexually transmitted disease - and cervical cancer.

Following a colposcopy and the results of a biopsy, the infected area of the cervix can be vaporized by a laser beam directed by a specialist using a colposcope. But this is not the only remedy.

The procedure is usually performed in out-patient clinics and under a local anaesthetic, although in some cases that may not be considered necessary. Most patients feel well enough after the treatment to walk out of the clinic, although many prefer to take the rest of the day off work, and some may be offered a rest bed. The consequences of the treatment are slight bleeding and a mild discharge, which may last for up to a fortnight.

Professor Frank Sharp, professor of gynaecology and obstetrics at Sheffield University, was one of the first specialists in Britain to use the laser. "The treatment is 90 per cent effective - that sort of success rate anywhere in medicine is extremely impressive", he said.

Professor Sharp starts his

latest intensive, two-day training course in the use of colposcopes for gynaecologists at the Northern General Hospital in Sheffield tomorrow. A similar course also starts tomorrow at the Royal Northern Hospital in London, under the direction of a leading specialist, Mr Albert Singer. Those attending the courses will later improve their skills under supervision for up to nine months before applying them to patients.

"Every woman who has an abnormal smear deserves a colposcopy", Professor Sharp said. "We can tailor its use to individuals but everything depends on women having a smear test."

## The success rate is very high

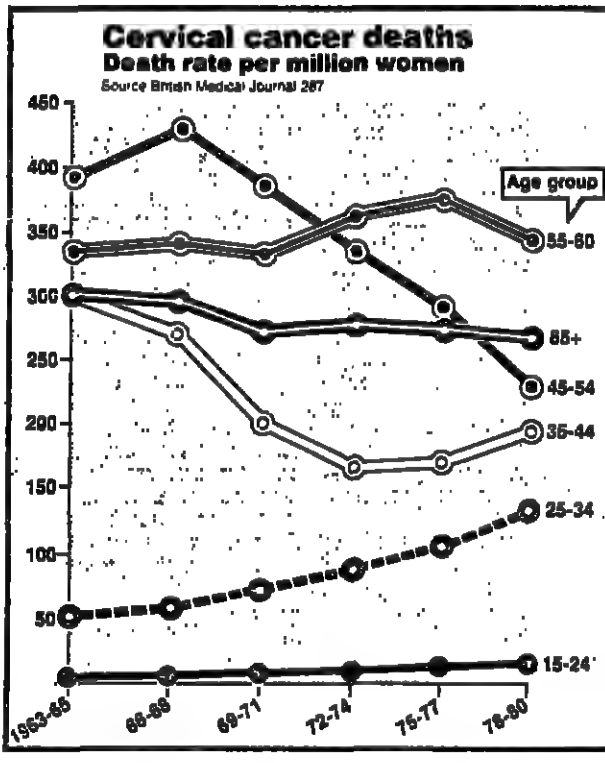
After laser treatment, patients are required to undergo two follow-up smear tests and two further colposcopies at intervals of four and ten months in practice, these checks are often carried out six months and a year after the initial treatment.

At many NHS hospitals, specialists are faced with a constant demand from patients referred by their general practitioners.

"We are overwhelmed by the numbers", Professor Sharp said. "We dealt with about 1,000 new cases last year in Sheffield."

A consultant gynaecologist in north London said: "There is an urgent need for more resources. A waiting time of three months for a colposcopy is becoming more common. For women afraid that they may have cervical cancer, that is an unacceptably long period."

Thomson Prentice



Tomorrow With Julie Andrews and Alan Bates on the set of *Duet for One*

# We've gone to the dogs

It was the realization that middle age had surreptitiously rounded our contours and stiffened our joints that prompted us to acquire a dog. Balking at the suggestion of jogging or aerobics to work us back to youth, we opted for the gentler alternative of walking. A dog seemed the only way of ensuring that we kept to our good intentions.

Our knowledge of canine breeds was limited and we liked the idea of offering refuge to an abandoned animal, so we set off for the nearest Dog Rescue Home.

Our enthusiasm was soon dashed when we discovered we were not allowed even to see the dogs until we had been "approved".

Alarmed, we enquired what this meant. As well as being told that someone would come to inspect our house, we were presented with a lengthy ques-

**FIRST PERSON**  
Auriol Chisholm

tionnaire to complete. Was our garden fenced? Had we children under five? Was there someone in the house all day? It was the last question that particularly concerned me. I timidly muttered something about working a couple of hours every afternoon, to which I received the stern response: "We do expect our owners to be in most of the day. Of course, they can go out shopping."

Going home dogless, I began to fear that we might not be "approved". It was not so much being refused a dog that concerned me, but the shame of my home not being considered habitable for one. What were they looking for?

For a whole week I managed to keep the house tidy. I refused all temptations to go on shopping sprees and stayed indoors. After a week the effort did not seem worth the dog and I decided I would never get on with anything that needed a tidy house. We had also run out of food.

I had almost forgotten about the whole matter when the inspector from the dogs' home arrived. Clipboard in hand, she swept through the piles of ironing and strode into the garden. Our unfenced plot

stretched into a scented bluebell wood surrounded by school playing fields. "Don't choose a Jack Russell, he'll disappear", she said as she pressed the "approved" card into my hand. I felt as if I had passed an exam.

And thus it was that we fell in love with an insatiably active Jack Russell and took him apprehensively home. He trotted into our sitting room, sniffed around, and then cocked his leg regally on our precious red velvet sofa. My husband froze.

It was not long before I discovered why ideal abandoned dog owners are people who stay at home. They are either so exhausted from being dragged across the countryside by an ecstatic happy dog, or else they have to stay in to prevent the dog howling miserably because it thinks, if left for a few minutes, that it is being abandoned for a second time.

We do get our exercise come rain or snow, but we are no thinner or fitter, and the dog is fatter. But a new and unexpected dimension has come into our lives. Apart from a mutual admiration society between dog and owner, we found that children stop to talk to us and old people smile at us and we have shared the lives of strangers who have told us their closest secrets while our dogs tangle their leads round one another.

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## THE TIMES DIARY

### Tutu's triumph?

Bishop Desmond Tutu will make an historic address next month from Westminster Hall if secret plans being discussed this morning by the Foreign Affairs Select Committee go ahead. The last address to both Houses from the Hall was made in 1960 by President de Gaulle. Yesterday my source said a speech by the Nobel Peace Prize laureate would be seen as a "subtle attack by British politicians against the South African authorities". Yesterday Black Rod's office said Mrs Thatcher's permission would not be required; the nod is required only from the Speaker of the House of Commons. Bernard Weatherill, the Lord Chancellor, Lord Hailsham, and the Lord Great Chamberlain, Lord Chomondley, although it has not yet been announced, Bishop Tutu is arriving here late next month.

### Audrey bearded

I'm glad I'm not the person embarrassed yesterday by Tory minister Lord Lucas of Chilworth before a conference of cleaner salesmen at Olympia. In a *de haut en bas* gesture during his speech, Lord Lucas asked his civil servant to stand up and identify herself: "Audrey, where are you?" To much sniggering from the audience, Mr Audrey Pimlott, duly stood up. "Just a slip of the tongue," he assured me yesterday. "The minister knows perfectly well who I am."

### Ape unmasked



The "gorilla" who was dispatched by the University of London's eminent Professor of Morbid Anatomy, Colin Berry, to deliver a gorilla-gram to the secretary of the Royal College of Pathologists (Diary yesterday), has come forward. Ross Howard of Allgams, relieved his horror when, unable to find the secretary, he burst into the library to find a "frantically important" meeting of the governing body. They looked shocked, he said, "but I made my usual ape noises, beat my chest and sang, 'I will take you to the jungle / Away and up into a tree / Bananas and nuts is what you'll get from me / So let me give you a hug and a squeeze' from Professor Colin Berry." As monologues collectively dropped, the shocked professors "got a bit stumpy" and frogmarched Howard to the door. The purpose of the meeting has also emerged. They were discussing the appointment of the next college registrar. Berry was apparently a favourite to get the job. The man who did get it, Professor Jangu Banatvala, has reportedly been telling friends that "I got in on the anti-gorilla vote".

### Still in the red

The 31 surcharged Lambeth councillors must have scarcely believed their luck when they read in the Diary two weeks ago that highly placed sources at Conservative Central Office and the Department of the Environment were claiming that the councillors' £105,000 debt had been paid by an unnamed benefactor. Alas, their solicitor now tells us this is not so. "Negotiations are merely afoot," was all the district auditor's solicitor was prepared to say.

BARRY FANTONI



"Actually, I'm a prison officer. I hit a copper on the picket line."

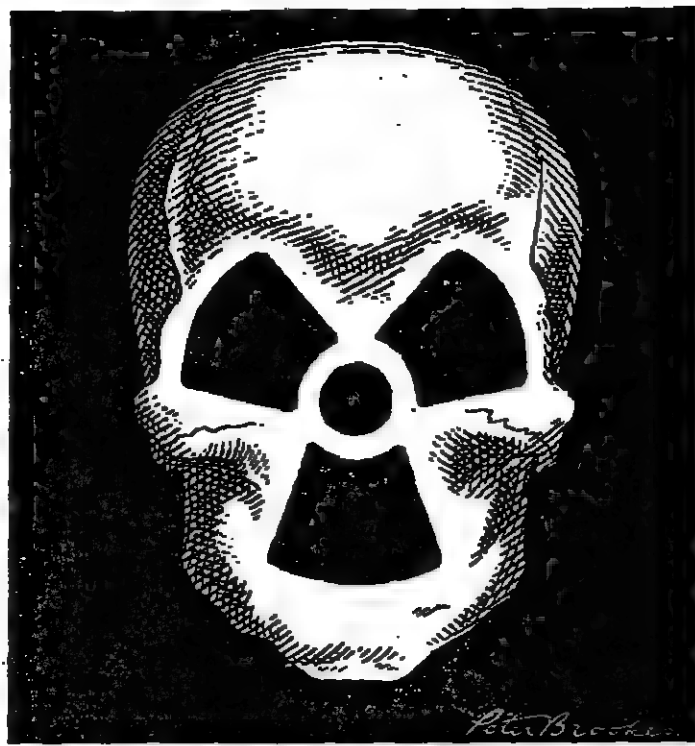
### Bang up to date

The psychic touch of English author Richard Hugo is causing alarm at Macmillan Publishers. He recently delivered his third manuscript, provisionally entitled *Farwell to Russia*, which deals with a nuclear holocaust in the Soviet Union. His most recent novel, *Last Judgement* dealt with NATO's installation of binary chemical weapons in Europe. It was announced this week that NATO is considering the project. His first novel, published in 1983, was called *The Hitler Diaries*. A thriller about the laundering of fake diaries, it came out a few months before the "discovery" of the real fakes. It accurately foresaw how the hoax would occur, the contents of the fakes.

PHS

Ian Smart believes the accident's lessons may be mainly for Russia

## Chernobyl is not Sizewell



Because the whole topic arouses such strong feelings, any serious accident at a nuclear power plant is bound to affect nuclear energy programmes everywhere. Once the world discovers what happened at the Chernobyl station, however, there is good chance that it will turn out to be a peculiarly Soviet problem.

Although it lags behind the United States, and even France, the Soviet Union ranks as a substantial producer of nuclear electricity, with about the same number of nuclear generating plants as Japan and two and a half times more than Britain. In addition, it is naturally the dominant partner in its collaboration with Eastern Europe, where all the power reactors now operating are of Soviet design. Yet its own reactor programme has evolved, by international standards, in an idiosyncratic fashion.

Like their Western counterparts, Soviet scientists and engineers experimented from the 1950s with a variety of designs for nuclear power plants. From that process, two separate types emerged as the pillars of Soviet nuclear electricity supplies. One is a family of pressurized water reactors (PWRs), known locally by their Russian initials VVER and broadly similar to the kind commercially prevalent in the West. (The new plant the Central Electricity Generating Board wants to build at Sizewell is a PWR and so was the ill-fated reactor at Three Mile Island.)

Besides making them in two sizes for domestic use, the Soviet Union has supplied some 15 VVER units to its East European neighbours, as well as two to Finland, and is either building or planning others in places as far afield as Cuba, Libya and North Korea.

The VVER reactors have generally worked well once in service, and are intended to be the mainstay of Soviet nuclear expansion for the rest of this century. There has been great difficulty, however, in building them quickly enough, especially since 1983 when subsidies and bad manage-

ment combined to cause serious damage to the main VVER assembly line at Volgogradsk. As a result, nuclear capacity in the USSR is likely to fall almost 40 per cent below its planned levels by 1990.

One result of this delay is that all the more weight has come to rest on the second pillar in the Soviet nuclear power programme: the RBMK reactor. These reactors, one of which was involved in the Chernobyl accident, are very different. Their low-enriched uranium fuel is cooled by ordinary water — as in a PWR — but is set in a graphite moderator — as in a British Magnox or advanced gas-cooled reactor plant. The RBMK fuel elements are distributed among no fewer than 1,693 separate vertical channels, independently cooled, in each of which the fuel can be exchanged without shutting down the reactor itself.

Nothing quite like the RBMK has ever been built for commercial electricity purposes outside the Soviet Union. Indeed, the design is so cumbersome that its adop-

tion by Soviet planners can only be explained on the basis of its excellent qualities as a machine for producing not only electricity but also plutonium for civil or military use.

Partly because of the delays to the VVER programme, RBMK reactors still supply the bulk of the Soviet nuclear electricity. Since the first of the full-scale RBMK units was completed in 1973 outside Leningrad, a total of 15 have entered service at five sites: four each at Leningrad, Kursk and Chernobyl, two at Smolensk and, most recently, one up-graded unit at Ignalina in Lithuania. Together they provide 60 per cent of the Soviet Union's nuclear generating capacity, which in turn produces some 11 per cent of the country's electric power. And 15 more RBMKs are still under construction or on Soviet drawing-boards. If the Chernobyl accident reveals some basic flaw in the RBMK design, therefore, it will strike a heavy blow to the whole national electricity system.

We still know too little about events at Chernobyl to assess that risk. All that seems certain is that there has been catastrophic damage to at least some of the fuel in one of the station's four reactors, accompanied by a fire involving graphite as well as fuel materials.

The most obvious cause would be a loss of coolant, allowing fuel in some of the pressurized channels to overheat, burn and ignite more fuel and the surrounding moderator. But the large number of independent cooling circuits in an RBMK makes it hard to believe that this could happen in routine circumstances without extraordinary negligence on the part of its operators. It may be, therefore, that the accident began during some special operation, such as an exchange of fuel elements while the plant was still running.

In any case, one important consideration is that what has happened in the Ukraine seems unlikely to have direct technical repercussions on specific power reactors outside the Soviet Union. Ostensibly because of its construction requirements, but presumably also because of its plutonium-producing qualities, the RBMK design has never been offered to other countries.

None of that will prevent waves of justified or unjustified alarm about nuclear power spreading across the world from Chernobyl. Nor does it by any means rule out the potential need for other countries to learn important lessons. Any reactor can experience some sort of loss-of-coolant accident. And there are reactors in a number of other countries, including Britain, which use graphite as a moderator or are designed for on-load refuelling.

But the peculiar combination of characteristics in the RBMK type may yet be that it will be somewhat easier to contain at least the technical ramifications of this accident within the borders of a single country than it has been to confine its radioactive fall-out.

The author is an energy consultant and author of *Nuclear Fuel and Power: A View Towards 2000*.

### Henry Stanhope on the financial crisis threatened by cuts in American aid

## Autumn famine the United Nations dreads

system of "weighted voting" was adopted so that those who paid most money would have the greatest say — on financial matters anyway. The latter ordered immediate cuts across the board in US federal spending with a view to balancing the budget by 1991.

So far the US has withheld more than \$33m, in addition to \$2m was clinging on to for other reasons. But what most worries the UN now is the order of cuts threatened in October when the US administration enters its next financial year, with both the Kassebaum and Gramm-Rudman restrictions taking effect.

Pérez de Cuellar has already ordered a number of economies, cutting down on travel and the number of consultants for instance, which should save \$10m. Some departments have also been threatened with a 10 per cent cut in their budgets. But reserve funds had already been used up by last December and with the crisis likely to deepen in the autumn, the UN is having to face up to some hard decisions.

Congress is more interested in bringing pressure on the UN to put its house in order than to save itself hard cash. Congressmen were deeply affronted by a UN proposal (since deferred) to spend \$70m on a new conference centre in Addis Ababa at a time when

Ethiopians were starving. A similar project to build a centre in Bangkok was also held to be totally unnecessary — as was a proposal to hold three special conferences, away from New York, on southern Africa. (The additional cost of staging them away from headquarters was in itself equal to the total annual contribution to the UN of its 40 poorest members.) Big financial decisions need a two-thirds majority in the UN. But two-thirds could be made up by the 106 poorest nations, whose combined contributions come to less than 2 per cent of the total budget.

Once again the Americans have won sympathy rather than sup-



Pérez de Cuellar looking for comfort from London

port. The EEC countries, which between them pay about 20 per cent of the budget, have made it clear to Washington that they are less than prepared to pick up the extra bill. Others point out that if the national contributions are assessed according to the members' gross national product the Americans are actually not paying enough. Third World countries argue that the influence of America over the UN, far from being disproportionately low, is far too high. Meanwhile the secretary-general himself is known to feel that Washington has acted at a time when the UN's anti-Americanism, hostility towards Israel and double-standards on East-West relations have become far less marked.

Be that as it may, there is a note of urgency about the UN these days as its bureaucrats try to come up with the solutions that might forestall the US action. A committee of 18 high-level officials has been appointed to examine the options and a number of ideas are already under discussion, including one that would limit the contributions of any one member to 10 or 13 per cent. Most, however, look likely to mean higher payments from other members of the UN, while failing to satisfy the American demand for more control over decision-taking. Pérez de Cuellar, although he is not coming to Britain simply to discuss his money worries, will expect to hear the British position — now being debated in Whitehall.

One reason for the present urgency is that the UN has so far reacted with a typical lack of it. The only point on which everyone agrees is that if the committee of 18 is to reach a consensus, and then win acceptance of its findings at the General Assembly in time to avert the October revolution threatening UN finances, it will have its work cut out.

Republican party out of Craxi's government over the Abbas affair.

Spadolini has been proclaiming that terrorism must not be met with counter-violence. But he may well have a problem if allegations that Italian radar failed to pick up the American bombardment of Tripoli are proved correct.

It is within Italy itself that the greatest repercussions of the Libyan crisis will be felt. Many politicians appear either not to have understood that something has happened to Italy internationally because of its clash with the US, or they do realize and dislike it. They may also be inviting trouble by their reaction to the need to show that they are strongly opposed to terrorism.

Italy's first arrest after the bombing was of a former Libyan diplomat who, it is alleged, worked with a Libyan Arab involved a year ago in a plot to shoot the American ambassador. His accuser, however, is another Libyan who spent a year in prison for his involvement in the same plot and has now declared he was a CIA agent all along.

It would be sad if internal politics and judicial errors should overshadow the attempt at conducting a recognizably Italian policy in the Mediterranean.

Peter Nichols

Tom Burke

## Could the atom split the parties?

The Russian radioactive plume spreading across Scandinavia is also casting its shadow over British politics. The seriousness of the accident is bound to intensify the political polarization on nuclear power currently taking place in this country. Nuclear power politics is fast becoming fissile.

In little more than a month, two senior political figures, John Wakeham and John Cunningham, have become involved in serious public rows about nuclear power. Wakeham, the government's chief whip, has a 12,000 majority in his constituency of Colchester South and Maldon that looks vulnerable to the Alliance. A proposal to dump radioactive waste at Bradwell in the constituency was immediately seized upon by his SDP opponent as just the issue to tip the balance. Not surprisingly, Wakeham has become a convert to the Nimby (not-in-my-back-yard) principle. A chief whip who thinks radioactive waste is too dangerous for his constituency will find it hard to persuade other Tory MPs it is safe for theirs.

Michael Brown has already threatened to resign and force a by-election if his Humber-side constituency of Brigg and Cleethorpes is chosen and other Tory MPs threatened with radioactive waste dumps in their constituencies feel the same. William Waldergrave, the minister responsible for making the final decision, was left in no doubt about the strength of feeling among Bedfordshire MPs during a recent visit to Elstow.

In March, *Tribune* carried a sharp, if coded, attack on Neil Kinnock, written by Peter Hain, vice-chairman of the Labour Co-ordinating Committee. Hain's attack sounded a familiar and — given the quarter it came from — dangerous refrain, warning Kinnock against "drift by the leadership away from positions and decisions democratically decided by conference".

The Labour leader's crime was to have supported a vigorous defence of nuclear power by John Cunningham, the party's environment spokesman. At its 1985 conference, Labour carried by over 60 per cent a motion calling for "a halt to the nuclear power programme and a phasing out of all existing plants". Cunningham, whose constituency includes Sellafield, has subsequently made it clear on a number of occasions that he will not be bound by this decision. Kinnock has joined him in this commitment.

Meanwhile the debate within the Labour Party continues to intensify. Its Scottish conference recently passed a resolution calling for a moratorium of Torness and other uncompleted nuclear plants. This prompted a fierce counter-blast from Cunningham

in *Tribune* in which he accused nuclear critics in the Labour Party of being "careless of those thousands of workers and their families dependent on the industry".

All of which should be music to the ears of Alliance candidates in both north and south. So far, the cautious compromise position on nuclear energy agreed by the Liberals and SDP before the 1983 election has held up well. There has been no public sparring on the issue and very little private discussion either within or between the parties.

However, this period of calm may now be coming to an end. There are currents in both parties pressing for a more positive commitment to nuclear power. The recently reconstituted SDP energy committee lists among its members both Robert MacLennan, the MP for Calthorpe and Sutherland, which includes Donnybrook, and John Lyons, the power workers' leader and long time pro-nuclear campaigner. Alliance split-seekers have long looked to this issue as a profitable hunting ground. As the political temperature on nuclear matters continues to rise they may well find better sport than in the past.

And the temperature does seem likely to rise. The Russian incident, the recent spate of accidents at Sellafield, the search for sites for radioactive waste dumps, and the publication of the Sizewell report later in the year will all fuel the fires of debate. Furthermore, there are distinct signs that the Central Electricity Generating Board is becoming uneasy about the outcome of the next election. Its fears may be warranted in that all the opposition parties are firmly opposed to the pressurized water reactor obsessively favoured by the Board's chairman and the Prime Minister. The current spate of board-inspired articles, the shifting ground of its case for the PWR and its increasing pressure for fast decisions on the rest of the programme are all moves designed to head off worse trouble in the future.

But they may not be wise. The chief success of the nuclear industry has been to keep itself out of the party-political debate. The political parties have been weak and ineffectual directors of energy policy, no match at all for the energy industries before whose Whitehall lobby they have all fallen helpless victims. A political consensus, largely founded on nuclear industry half-truths, has stifled serious political discussion of nuclear power. Now that this consensus is collapsing, and public opinion is moving firmly against more nuclear power, the electricity board's efforts to force the issue may only intensify the debate.

The author is director of the Green Alliance.

moreover... Miles Kington

## There's a lot of it about

The other day I turned on the radio and found myself listening to an interview with some well-known person like this...

"And your committee has definite proof that it is on the increase?"

"Oh, definitely. Twenty years ago the statistics were not at all disturbing, but now it is threatening to get out of hand."

"Has it reached epidemic proportions yet?"

"No, but unless action is taken soon, we fear that it will."

"What kind of action are you calling for?"

"Official action, and the sooner the better. The government must put teeth into existing legislation, but above all it must make more money available to the people in the field."

You've probably heard conversations like this yourself. The people concerned are caring, concerned and aware — and you haven't the faintest idea what they're talking about. It could be anything: drugs, butter, aircraft noise, cyclists' deaths on the road, child abuse or even calling people by their first name as soon as you have been introduced.

If you miss the opening exchange, when they identify the subject, you might as well miss the whole interview. It's like switching on the test match to get the score, and hitting one of those patches where the commentators forget to mention it.

Here's another common conversation:

"It is quite literally, priceless. There is nothing else like it in the country."

"What would be the effect if it did leave Britain?"

"I think Britain's heritage would be irreparably poorer. It has become part of our life, over these many years, and it is quite inconceivable that we should ever be without it."

"Can the money be raised in time?"

"I think so. But it isn't the money that is so important as simply making the public aware of the danger. If we can alert the public to the risk, then half the battle is won."

What are they bawling for? A rare butterfly? An old Italian painting? One of Brunel's iron hulks? Sir Roy Strong's moustache? It simply isn't possible to tell from the words, because they never repeat what they are talking about. You get one chance, and

that's it. The truth is, it's not worth listening to anyway. Most interviews on TV and radio are identical conversations, virtually interchangeable after the opening sentence.

"What attracted you to it in the first place?"

"Well, actually, a friend asked me along and I thought I'd have a go, just out of curiosity, and after that it just snowballed."

"And now you are Britain's leading exponent."

"Well, I wouldn't say that exactly! But I have been very, very lucky."

"Some people would say it was rather a well-strange way of spending most of your time."

"That's because they've never tried it. It's a wonderful way, not just of enjoying myself, but of meeting lots of people. I can't imagine how I ever got along without it."

Falcons? Nude hand-gliding? Dancing the tango? Doing computer portraits of famous people? Walking on stilts? Listening to noise, cyclists' deaths on the road, guess what they're about?

I think it might alarm the average expert if he realized that when he is talking, it is impossible to work out his field of expertise, because he sounds like all the other experts. Not that you have to be an expert — you can be a total outsider caught up in some weird disaster...

"People were very calm. There was no real panicking at all."

"But you must have been very frightened."

"Well, yes, but really a thing like that happens so quickly you don't have much time to be scared. It's afterwards you realize just how close you were."

"And how is the situation now?"

"Things are under control now. People have rallied round and tremendously and everyone is doing their bit, though I expect it will be days before things are really back to normal."

Earthquake? Train crash? Bomb? Motorway pile-up? Or simply being asked to talk to the media? It certainly seems to be on the increase. The government has to do something before it is too late. It can only do irreparable harm to our British heritage. The money itself is not enough. If we ignore the problem, it won't just go away. Thank you very much for coming to the studio. And now, the weather.

## Why Rome is turning on Reagan

Rome Since last autumn, an almost unprecedented bitterness has marked the relationship between the United States and Italy. And, as if to underline the unhappy truth that a close liaison is under real strain, both sides maintain that they are the ones remaining true to their joint principles. "Under the leadership of Bettino Craxi," the prime minister's friends repeat, "the Italians will never move away from their loyalty to the Atlantic alliance."

But they have been abruptly reminded by the Americans that 83 per cent of the people in the US approved of the attack on Libya, which the Italians continue to deplore. Craxi was particularly angered by Washington press reports that he was one of the European leaders who gave secret support to the bombing while publicly condemning it.

Italy provides the main Mediterranean bases for the Sixth Fleet as well as a series of NATO and other American bases, including the cruise missiles at Comiso. In fact, when that agreement was made — with remarkably little reaction, despite the fact that Italy has the western world's largest Communist party — there was a strong Italian feeling that the least they could now expect from the Americans was to be treated with more respect.

This desire for change in the relationship is part of a new Italian

self-confidence. The country is growing used to political stability. Despite frequent quarrels within the five-party coalition government Craxi has only offered his resignation once — and that was when a division occurred over how to behave towards the US.

That minor crisis followed in the wake of last autumn's Achille Lauro affair, in the course of which an American passenger was murdered. In the first serious clash between Rome and Washington, the contention arose over the American action in forcing down on Italian soil the Egyptian aircraft taking the ship's hijackers to Tunisia. Among them was the plot's alleged mastermind, Abu Abbas.

The Italians are still angry that the Americans very nearly took Abu Abbas by force. In reply, the Americans point to their having fulfilled all the requirements laid down in the new extradition treaty between the two countries.

The incident has marked the quarrel over the bombing of Libya. The US ambassador to Italy, Maxwell Rabb, has done his best to explain that once the US makes up its mind to do something, that something is done. The Italians have a twofold reply. First, they claim that they know rather more than the Americans about how to deal with terrorism, having managed to beat it at home without resorting to repression. Second, Craxi believes that inter-

national terrorism will not be halted by bombing, but by lowering tension within the Mediterranean area. Last year he tried to convince the moderate Arab powers to hold an international conference on the Palestinian question, with the Israelis and the PLO's Yasser Arafat also present. But that plan literally went up in smoke last October, when the Israelis bombed Arafat's Tunisian headquarters.

The attack briefly preceded the hijacking of the Achille Lauro, and if it was only coincidentally the precursor of the hijack, it is now seen here as the precedent followed by the US against Libya.

The question of Italy's policy towards the Arabs is less clear-cut. There was dissent within the government over the wisdom of trying to design a Mediterranean policy which was not in line with what the Americans expected. There was also criticism of the way in which Giulio Andreotti, the foreign minister, not only placed great importance on Italy's relationship with the Arabs, but also insisted on maintaining dialogue with Syria and Libya. He, however, agrees with the prime minister that allies can best serve the alliance by making an active contribution to solving the problems in their own area.

A lot has also been made of the differences between Andreotti and defence minister Giovanni Spadolini, who briefly led his





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## NUCLEAR PARANOIA I

Nuclear power is, to many, an unknown quantity which inspires fear. So is the Soviet Union. Accordingly, the combination of the two in what is now believed to be the world's biggest nuclear disaster has consequences which reach far beyond the vicinity of Chernobyl in the Ukraine where the accident happened.

Even without Chernobyl, the Soviet Union was facing an image problem. The new generation of Soviet leaders, headed by Mr Gorbachov, had stated its intention of rectifying matters with a full-blooded public relations campaign. They had called for more access to information, more respect for the "human factor" — including safety at work and a nod towards environmental considerations. The circumstances surrounding the Chernobyl accident show that no real progress has been made.

What is more disturbing, there is nothing in the way the accident was handled by the Soviet authorities to suggest that it would have been made public unless the radioactive cloud had alerted the Scandinavian countries to the fact of a large radiation leak somewhere in the Western USSR.

So far as the much-vaunted "human factor" is concerned, progress appears to have been just as negligible. If reports by specialists such as Dr Medvedev are true, the majority of Soviet nuclear power stations are built without the sort of safety precautions that are not only standard, but obligatory in the West. Chernobyl 1986 may prove in retrospect to have been what Three Mile Island was not — and so far no Western nuclear mishap could be — because of the stringent safety measures that are observed.

Until now, the Soviet Union's apparent disregard for human safety — in the way it builds its nuclear power stations, where it sites them (near

centres of population) and the lack of information it provides when something subsequently goes wrong — could perhaps have been dismissed as an internal matter for the Soviet authorities. It can be dismissed as such no longer.

The fact that neither the Soviet Union's East bloc allies nor the countries of Scandinavia — both of which were affected by abnormal levels of radiation after the accident — were informed until their own instruments detected it demonstrates a remarkably cavalier attitude to the interests of other countries and other people which is intolerable from a country which aspires to the status of a nuclear superpower. Such a status rests not only on might, but also on responsibility.

Moscow's response to Chernobyl exhibited no sense of responsibility, either to its own people or to its neighbours. And if the Soviet Union cannot be trusted to behave responsibly in a matter such as this, what prospect is there for it to show responsibility in the wider world of international relations? Once again, the judgement of the Soviet leadership — this time a new, younger and ostensibly more flexible leadership — has been revealed as flawed and worse.

In the next few years there will be untold economic repercussions. The Western part of the USSR, including the Ukraine, has the country's densest concentration of heavy industry. Soviet industry is — despite attempts to cut consumption — still a profligate user of energy. Yet the Western part of the country is the poorest in terms of natural energy resources. The answer was — and is planned to be until the year 2000 — to build dozens of nuclear power stations.

If one of these is now out of commission, the impact on Soviet industrial development will be serious. If the accident

prompts a reassessment of the whole nuclear power programme, as it should, Mr Gorbachov's ambitious development plans are bound to be set back. This means hard choices for the leadership. Can it afford to reduce energy exports — and therefore hard currency revenue — in pursuit of its development programme? Alternatively, can it afford the dashed hopes of the public that would result from an economic slowdown?

A second effect of the accident will be increased support for the anti-nuclear and environmental movements not only in the West, but in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe as well. In the Eastern bloc, a fledgling environmental movement now has evidence that nuclear power stations can, under certain circumstances (Soviet and East European circumstances), present risks to the civilian population. This will encourage the growth of environmental pressure groups in countries where non-official pressure groups are discouraged. The potentially destabilizing effect of this development should not be underestimated.

For the time being, the Soviet authorities could minimize the significant damage — to their reputation at home and abroad, to their energy programme and to social stability — by making public concern for nuclear safety its own cause. In addition to the measures outlined below, they could launch, or rather re-launch, a programme for truthful information even when it includes bad news.

But whatever they decide to do, Chernobyl where, according to the Soviet announcement "there were casualties", is likely to remain in the international memory as a symbol of Moscow's bad faith with the world. And Mr Gorbachov, for all his smiling bonhomie, will be unable to erase that image.

## NUCLEAR PARANOIA II

The worldwide nuclear power industry has always dreaded a catastrophic power station accident of the kind that has now taken place. For the realisation of that nightmare is bound to provide ammunition for anti-nuclear groups to play on latent public fears. Indeed, the chairman of Britain's Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament was quick to fire off a round yesterday, charging that such a disaster could happen at any nuclear power station in Britain.

Such reactions are hardly rational. In the absence of a full explanation of the causes of the Chernobyl accident, to state that it could be repeated in Britain's first and second generation gas-cooled reactors, which are of a fundamentally different design, is just to say that nuclear fission can produce catastrophic effects. That is common ground even to the most Panglossian advocates of nuclear energy and is the essential starting point for all nuclear engineering.

The development of that sophisticated industry over the past 25 years, which still continues apace, is in large measure a question of making

the risk ever more remote by a combination of design, engineering standards and vigilance. In democratic Western Europe, the United States and Japan, it is also a matter of building in greater safety margins, more layers of fail-safe mechanisms and greater provisions for containing the effects of accidents than scientists and accountants might professionally think necessary, in order to satisfy public fears.

Soviet secrecy has cut its nuclear industry off from the exchange of information that contributes so greatly to refining design and practice. It is not for instance, a member of the Institute of Nuclear Power Operations, the international club that maintains databanks on all incidents in nuclear power stations. It acts as a clearing house for even the smallest mishaps and investigation reports to be circulated day by day around the globe.

A disaster on such a scale to any nuclear plant anywhere is nonetheless likely to have a substantial impact on the world nuclear power industry. It is already suffering from a

dearth of orders due to the economic recession as much as the psychological fallout of the near disaster at Three Mile Island. Problems of nuclear waste have aroused public fears about nuclear power in Britain and Germany even though power station operation has proved trouble-free for many years.

The nuclear power debate in Britain was revived by the plan to switch from gas-cooled to pressurized water reactors. The long-delayed Sizewell inquiry report and decision must already have been affected by the changing economics brought by the collapse of oil prices, however temporary. The Soviet accident is at least likely to cause a further delay. At present, it does not suggest any direct technical effect on the choice of reactor.

It is still vital that the causes of the Chernobyl accident and their possible implications for nuclear design and safety standards are learnt as soon as possible. The Soviet Union should open its own inquiries into the causes and medical effects rapidly and fully via the International Atomic Energy Authority.

## THE NEWEST NEW REALIST

Mr Bill Jordan's accession to the presidency of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers looks like further evidence that the Thatcher years are seeing a deep and probably irreversible shift in attitudes towards economic enterprise. Yesterday the very stuff of his rhetoric was the marriage of employment and business success.

From his witness of the rapid industrial decline of the West Midlands, Mr Jordan has emerged sounding not unlike a Chamberlainite Tory, greedy for a renewal of private wealth creation — on condition it brings jobs and a fair share for his members. He is, it seems, a man for the season, a coadjutor of Mr Eric Hammond in the "new realism", and so his election is welcome.

But how stable is this new realism? At times it looks distinctly like the old parlour game of "let's say reassuring things about unions to secure a Labour election victory". Or perhaps it is merely a description of the effects of new internal union structures rather than a harbinger of any change in their function.

Mr Jordan's election is prob-

ably a better reflection of the views and aspirations of the AUEW membership than previous contests. Meanwhile, out in the real world, the AUEW is embroiled in a unnecessary dispute at British Aerospace where (despite Mr Jordan) claims for hours and money seem to be more highly valued than maximizing employment for non-members.

The fact of modern union life is that organizing the "new working class" — dispersed in smaller firms and using new technologies — is problematic. Two of Mr Jordan's rhetorical strophes are small business and individualism in the workplace. He proposes, most suggestively, "surgeries" for small employers on their labour problems. He emphasizes employee rights.

Where the new realism is especially ambiguous is over the political affiliation of trade unionism. On behalf of the Labour Party's own brand of new realism Mr Hattersley has been making speeches. At the shop workers' union conference on Monday he set out elements of the social contract that Labour would like to

make with the trade unions — though, understandably, not in those exact terms. The elements were moderation on wages in return for some approximation to full employment.

It might be said that even to get the unions to talk about wage restraint is a remarkable achievement, though whether it stems from Thatcher-induced appreciation of economic reality or love of Mr Kinnock is arguable. What is remarkable is how far there is underlying agreement on objectives between Mr Nigel Lawson, Mr Jordan and even Mr Ron Todd of the transport workers.

All are saying, in one way or another, that there is a trade-off between remuneration and employment. Mr Lawson wants wages restrained in order that lower unit labour costs should enhance competitiveness and so stimulate employment. Mr Kinnock wants pay restraint so that his programme of reflation and borrowed expenditure would not fuel inflation. Which is the pathway to more and more permanent employment? For all his new realism Mr Jordan seems to prefer the latter.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Upholding Queen's peace in Ulster

From Sir Eldon Griffiths, MP for *Bury St Edmunds (Conservative)*.  
Sir, I am glad that my colleague, Cecil Walker, MP (April 23) dissociates responsible politicians in Northern Ireland from the mindless — and murderous — attacks made, in the name of "loyalism" and "Unionism", on the men and women of the RUC and their families. Also, he misconceives the role of both the police and the Police Federation.

It is not the business of the RUC to be for or against the Anglo-Irish accord. It is their duty to uphold the Queen's peace in their part of the United Kingdom and to enforce the law as made by Parliament, to the best of their ability. Nor is it the task of the Police Federation to campaign for an alternative to the agreement. The federation's job is to represent its members in all matters that affect the welfare and efficiency of the force.

These are no pedantic legal distinctions. The most welcome development in the RUC over the past 20 years has been its evolution from a heavily sectarian body, under local Stormont control, to an independent British-style police force upholding the law without regard to religion or politics. It would be a retrograde, and dangerous, step for its serving officers or their representative body to get involved in the politics of the Anglo-Irish Agreement.

That said, the agreement has created a number of agonising dilemmas, as well as practical policing problems, for the RUC. The force is being asked to do too much. It cannot simultaneously be successful in:

### The Muslim view

From Mr Kenneth Gill.  
Sir, I read Mr Mughram Al-Ghamdi's letter (April 24) with a mixture of sympathy and irritation. Sympathy because I share a concern about the indiscriminate nature of bombing. Irritation because of Mr Mughram Al-Ghamdi's presumption that he speaks for the two million-strong Muslim community in this country and accuses her Majesty's Government of "an ingrained hostility to Arab Muslims". Well, I always thought that the problem with our Government and country was a too strong pro-Arab position.

As a tolerant (I hope) member of the "host community" surrounding the undeniably important Muslim minority I must say that I am aware of far less hostility to the Muslim minority than to the Irish or Jewish or Catholic or other minority, perhaps apart from the National Front.

However, as an Englishman mercifully unaligned to any religion, I would be interested to hear the views of other Muslim

### ILEA results

From Mr William H. Stubbs.  
Sir, On the front page of *The Times* for April 21 you report the findings of a survey which claims that the examination results for secondary school pupils in inner London are substantially below the national average. In the run-up to an election it is to be expected that there will be differing claims from political parties about the status quo. This makes it particularly important that readers should understand any distinction between political statements and basic facts. I should, therefore, wish to point out:

Firstly, the National Council for Educational Standards which has published the survey is not a neutral research group. It is a pressure group with a commitment to a particular view. Secondly, a survey of examination results carried out by government statisticians was published by the Department of Education and Science in 1984. It is the most developed analysis of national examination statistics so far. This concludes that pupils in the ILEA, neither under-achieving, nor achieving greater success than examinations than expected when account is taken of their home background. The results also show that the ILEA ranks 45th out of the 96 English local education authorities.

The standards of pupils from schools in the ILEA have improved, both with respect to their predecessors and their peers elsewhere in the country. Yours sincerely, WILLIAM STUBBS, Education Officer, Inner London Education Authority, The County Hall, SE1, April 25.

### Heritage fire risk

From the Director of the World Fire Statistics Centre.  
Sir, The British Automatic Sprinkler Association (April 28) can rightly take credit for their long-standing warnings to the Government of the danger to our heritage buildings. Is one lesson of the Hampton Court fire that more British buildings should be protected by automatic sprinkler systems?

The answer is probably "Yes". But sprinklers are expensive to install and if Britain is going to spend millions of pounds on better fire protection, taxpayers have a right to insist that the money is spent cost-effectively. Cost-effectiveness can only be measured by statistics and the truth is that British fire statistics (like those of other countries) are hopelessly inadequate. For example, the excellent statistics col-

lecting the rising tide of "conventional" crime and violence. 2. Fighting a counter-insurgency war against the Provisional IRA. 3. Policing massive civil unrest, much of which, I accept, reflects the disaffection of the majority, and 4. Maintaining an armed guard along an open international frontier.

Something has to give. In my view, the RUC should be relieved of some of its duties on the border. Too many of its men are bottled up in rear fortresses; they should be released to concentrate on public order duties and the protection of their homes and families. I adhere to the view that it is impossible in a free society for a civilian police force to police for long against the majority. Mr Cecil Walker might recall that I told ministers exactly that when Parliament debated the Anglo-Irish Agreement. But the majority has duties to its police force, as well as vice-versa.

Every elected member ought now to be using his best offices to halt the violence against the police, to get rid of the foolish gang style police force upholding the law without regard to religion or politics, and dangerous, step for its serving officers or their representative body to get involved in the politics of the Anglo-Irish Agreement.

Yours, ELDON GRIFFITHS, House of Commons, April 25.

British citizens on the subject of the fate, for example, of the writer and publisher of such a letter expressing a pro-Anglo-American stance in a Muslim newspaper in, say, Iran. Or why Mr Mughram Al-Ghamdi makes no mention of the horror that must surely be felt by many Muslim British citizens about the atrocities perpetrated by illiberal regimes ruled by such as Khomeini or the slaughter of Afghanistans by the Soviets and so on. Or the indiscriminate placing of bombs in public places by cowards, Muslim or otherwise.

As I have indicated I hold little sympathy for bombing of any kind. But I have sympathy for an American President frustrated by attacks on US citizens by Muslims who live and/or travel freely in countries in whom I detect no "ingrained hostility". And I have sympathy for a British Prime Minister who, against all purely party interests, holds out a helping hand to an ally.

### Alternative prayers

From Mr J. W. Howell.  
Sir, "Times past" might have been a more apt title to the letter from Mrs Eve Hitchens (April 24). The Church (including the Church of England) is probably one of the few institutions which should exist for the benefit of its non-members. As Christians, our duty is clearly to evangelise. I wonder how Mrs Hitchens thinks that the Church can succeed in doing this in a language and style written four hundred years ago?

No doubt at Sunday worship she and others who believe that *The Book of Common Prayer* and the King James Bible are meaningful and relevant to today's Church are "bewailing [their] manifold sins and wickedness" probably because it is "meet and right and [their] bounden duty".

Apart from the fact that by using such words we are not being wholly honest with God — do we really bewail our sins? — is such language likely or conducive to bring non-Christians to Church, e.g. those "ordinary, backsliding English men and women" of whom Mrs Hitchens speaks?

Thank God indeed that at least the Church of England is coming alive to the needs of the twentieth century by attempting to communicate in this century's language. At least then with God's help we may be able to reach those in inner cities, outer villages and all peoples of this nation.

Yours faithfully, JEREMY HOWELL, Tresillian, Greenway Road, Chelston Torquay, Devon, April 24.

### Recollections of the Abdication

From Dr J. A. H. Wylie.  
Sir, Your obituary of the Duchess of Windsor (April 25) is not wholly correct in stating that the "American and continental press was full of the scandal surrounding the Prince of Wales and Mrs Simpson."

At the time that I arrived as an undergraduate in Germany, in July 1936, and as a mark of courtesy to Britain which was much appreciated in Downing Street and Whitehall, Dr Goebbels had decreed that the story should not appear in the German press; not even in the *Frankfurter Zeitung*, which, at that time, enjoyed some degree of independence. That decree held good until the formal announcement of the Abdication.

I have the honour to be, Sir, your obedient servant, JOHN A. H. WYLIE, 9A Portland Place, Kemp Town, Brighton, Sussex, April 25.

From the Editor of the *Telegraph & Argus*, Bradford.  
Sir, The article by your Religious Affairs Correspondent (April 25) states that it was the *Yorkshire Post* which gave wider circulation to the speech given by the Bishop of Bradford at his diocesan conference which precipitated the Abdication of King Edward VIII.

The text of the sensational speech was, in fact, disclosed to the world on December 1, 1936, by Charles Leach, a reporter employed by the *Bradford Telegraph & Argus* which had earlier that day reported the news under the seven-column headline, "The Bishop of Bradford's Reference to the King's 'Need for Grace'".

The story was telephoned to the Press Association, who wired it to their subscribing newspapers after first sending a note alerting editors to the significance of the report.

A verbatim report of the bishop's speech and a carefully prepared summary was later telephoned to PA.

The role of the *Yorkshire Post* and its Editor, Mr Arthur Mann, was in fact the circulation of an editorial comment about the affair which was published in some quarters the following day.

Yours sincerely, TERRY QUINN, Editor, *Telegraph & Argus*, PO Box 234, Hall Ings, Bradford, West Yorkshire, April 25.

### Cost of frigate

From Mr D. Laurent Giles.  
Sir, It is high time someone in Government sorted out the cost of a frigate.

On January 29, 1985, you reported Mr Heseltine making a statement in Parliament, as Defence Secretary, that the price of a Type 22 frigate was "about £140 million". At the time of the launching of the Type 22 frigates Coventry and Sheffield earlier this month their price was widely reported, in your columns and on the BBC as "100 million".

Last night, in its MOD programme — made with the fullest co-operation of the Ministry of Defence — the BBC gave the cost of a Type 22 as £170 million.

Either the British public is entitled to an accurate figure for such a huge item of public expenditure, or it is not. If it is, could an accurate and consistent figure be quoted? If not, would the minister concerned kindly make an unequivocal statement to that effect?

Yours faithfully, DAVID GILES, Director, Thornycroft, Giles & Associates Ltd, The Embankment, Bembidge, Isle of Wight.

### Still, small voice

From the Master of Churchill College, Cambridge.

Sir, In case any of your readers are misled by Dr John Herbert's absurd suggestion in your issue of April 25 that quantum theory, based on mathematics, "virtually demands the existence of an external God", let me assure them that this is not so. Indeed, theoretical physicists have in their ranks non-believers as well as believers in various religions, just as is the case in the general population.

Yours faithfully, HERMANN BONDI, Churchill College, Cambridge.

### Cyprus settlement

From Mr D. Lakatamitis.  
Sir, Your leader, "Time to settle Cyprus" (April 23) includes, at several instances, a vague and slightly misleading interpretation of the reasons why President Kyprianou has not given the thumbs up to the latest UN initiative.

What the article calls unreasonable is the President's refusal to dissolve the present, internationally recognized government of Cyprus for a so-called "transitional" one, while major issues like a) the withdrawal of the Turkish occupation troops, b) the withdrawal of the imported Turkish settlers, c) the question of international guarantees (the UN plan names Turkey as a guarantor of independence) and d) the issue of basic human freedoms, i.e., to move, live or work in any part of the island, remain unresolved, even in principle, and are left to "working groups" to sort out at leisure.

Whilst I believe there should

## ON THIS DAY

APRIL 30 1877

The war referred to in the opening paragraph was the Russo-Turkish war of 1877-1878. There is no record of the name of the correspondent.

### EGYPT

(From An Occasional Correspondent).  
ALEXANDRIA, April 14.  
Nobody here knows how Egypt will be affected by the war. It is a practical, not a theoretical question, and yet no answer is ready... To turn to more specific subjects. In this country of many Creeds we are to have two Eastern, and the second, the Greek and Coptic Easter, is always a very noisy business. The churches are crowded, and at midnight squibs and crackers are lighted and guns fired, all with the object of "shooting Judas", whose death is made doubly sure by his being also burnt in effigy in half a dozen different quarters of the town. The rejoicing lasts over Monday, when everybody turns out to greet the coming summer. This day, the Coptic Easter Monday, is also the occasion of a great Arab festival which is only known to Egypt, and was adopted from the Coptic practice the conquerors found when they brought the religion of Mahomet into the country. The Arabs call it the Sham-en-Nessem—the smelling of the zephyr. They and their families go out to their country, some with tents, and pass the day in the fields, on the banks of the canals, under the shade of trees, eating fruit and sweetmeats and making and telling stories. They dress in their brightest colours and group themselves into brilliant masses. Some take boats and paddle about the harbour, others float about in canal barges. They take nothing stronger than water, and yet they are as merry as children. Their talk and laughter are never ending, and the smallest joke calls forth the broadest grin. "It is so pleasant," said a great traveller to me to-day, "to come from gloomy England to so happy and smiling a people." Their food is of the simplest kind. Big flat loaves of bread, cakes, sweetmeats, lettuce and onions, with great draughts of Nile water, make their dinner. No matter what the weather is—even a hot desert wind may be blowing, they still go out to "smell the zephyr", and only return at the setting sun. From this date the natives date the period of Khamseen (50), when the hot winds are supposed to blow off and on for 50 days. As a matter of fact we have these Khamseen winds a month ago, but the Arab only calls it a Khamseen if it occurs within this period. The origin they give to these words is very quaint. When Cain murdered his brother Abel, he wandered into the desert with the body on his back, not knowing how to dispose of it. So he wandered for 50 days, and the hot wind blew upon him all the time and filled him with thirst and fever. At last he saw two birds fight in the air and one kill the other. Then Cain said to himself, "I will do with my brother's body as the living bird does with the dead." The living bird scratched a hole in the sand and buried his fellow. So Cain buried his brother in the desert, and straightaway a cool breeze came and his fever passed. But every spring the hot wind has come back to blow for 50 days...

The statement in the English newspapers and the question in the House of Commons concerning the sale of 300 slaves in Cairo, has revived in Egypt the memory of the late Moutserif. His were the slaves in question. His name was noted as the largest in the country and the disposal of it was a matter of some difficulty when the great man fell. Even if Egypt were seriously disposed to abandon the system of domestic slavery, there is no organization for the protection of slaves who are suddenly released, and freedom in such a case would have been a questionable benefit. Many were placed in other harems, but a large number were sold, not in the sensational manner which has been stated, but by private contract. Indeed, there is no such thing as a public slave market in Cairo, although, no doubt, slaves are bought and sold there...

At present domestic slavery is a necessity to the harem system. A number of slaves are a sign of wealth and position. Every wife of a certain rank is entitled to have slave attendants. It would be impossible to maintain the seclusion of the harem without slaves. Female domestic servants are unknown, and if the wives had to do their own work, they could no longer maintain their strict isolation. To change such a system must be a matter of time...

### First seal?

From Mr Rodney Bewes.  
Sir, I know gentlemen write to tell you they have heard the first cuckoo of spring. This morning, at the end of a long sculling session from Chiswick bridge back to The London Rowing Club, I was met by a seal! Swimming happily about Putney bridge. First I've seen this spring. Indeed, ever on the Thames.

Yours sincerely, RODNEY BEWES, The Garrick Club, Garrick Street, W.C2, April 27.







## THE ARTS

Television  
So now  
the dust  
can lie

Riots, massacres and streams of pitiful refugees filled the screen at regular intervals over the last three days of *Lord Mountbatten: The Last Viceroy*.

The series had the vast disadvantage of coming to the screen at the rear of a procession of fabulous epics about the twilight of the British Raj. It was hard not to notice that it lacked the dignity of *Gandhi*, the scope of *A Passage to India*, the gutsy valour of *The Far Pavilions* or the humanity of *A Jewel in the Crown*. It also lacked a viable dramatic structure, so that piles of bloodstained corpses and rioting mobs were called for so often that the sights became wearisome.

The first problem was history, in which events seldom arranged themselves into the kind of heart-stopping, suspenseful progression that keeps an audience viewing for hours on end. The second problem was evidently sentiment; the Mountbattens are to this day dearly-loved figures but it was hard to project the qualities which aroused public affection.

The script often gave the impression of having been assembled from undigested fragments of military memoirs, and the dialogue flowed most freely when Auchinleck waved a pointer over a map. Any emotional dimension the drama could have achieved was nullified by this clipped, factually-orientated mode.

The series was unable to suggest the personalities of Mountbatten and his wife Edwina in any meaningful way. Nicol Williamson in the title role had an appropriate *Camel* Sex accent and an upper lip so stiff it was unable to animate the wooden dialogue. The most successful characterization was Ian Richardson's Nehru, which was achieved at the cost of giving an imposing newsworld figure rather too much plasticity.

The awkward question of the relationship between Lady Mountbatten and the Indian leader was treated with hesitancy and embarrassment rather than delicacy, and one had the impression that the scriptwriter would have been happier to duck this issue entirely.

In all, this six-hour mini-series was not equal to its subject and has effectively ensured that the dust of this era will not be disturbed again for some years - when, perhaps, the lengthening perspective of history will render it easier to portray with success.

Celia Brayfield

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Dance  
Emphasis on the character

**The Snow Queen**  
Hippodrome,  
Birmingham

There are not many three-act ballets where the male dancing takes precedence, but David Bintley's new *Snow Queen* is one. The pattern is set in the prologue, where malevolent creatures caper threateningly before their cruel mistress, the Snow Queen makes her appearance, and among her attendants the three sinister white wolves, danced by men, are more prominent than her snow-maidens.

The ballet's plot, as Bintley explained on this page last week, is close to that of *Le Balser de la Jefe*. In fact, the plot proves better constructed and stronger in its drama. On the other hand, although Bramwell Tovey has written a good, rhythmically-supportive, colourful, atmospheric score based on themes by Mussorgsky, those two are not actually the equals of Stravinsky and Tchaikovsky. At its

best, the score is striking: for instance, the interlude after the prologue, in which you not only hear fragments of the shattered mirror falling, and the howling wolves, but you even feel the cold.

The colourful quality of the music is matched by Terry Barter's designs, simple but giving definition to each scene, and by the emphasis in Bintley's choreography on character-dancing. That allows him to show off the strength of Sadler's Wells Royal Ballet's men, not least in an ingeniously hectic sequence at the betrothal of Kay and Gerda.

Michael O'Hare, in a long, difficult and funny solo with a bottle, largely ran away with honours for dancing at Monday night's premiere, with notable performances also from Graham Lustig as a white-haired dwarf, capriciously evil, and the three wolves led by Peter Jacobson.

One unfortunate result was that the ostensible hero, Kay, seemed by contrast a pallid

figure for some of the time. That is a little unfair on Roland Price, who acts intelligently and sympathetically, and dances with vigour. He is best when being wicked, and also, crucially, in the ballet's final scene with its mixture of pathos, courage and doom. This is a performance which one can expect to grow once he has the measure of the role.

Bintley has given the ballet, contrary to Hans Andersen's story, a tragic ending. Gerda's devotion in following Kay to the Snow Queen's palace still serves to melt his heart, but it is too late: his fate is already sealed. That makes, in the theatre, a more definite climax. It also reflects the relative strength of the two main women's roles.

Leanne Benjamin gives Gerda a quiet tenacity, but she cannot find much more in the part, while the title role offers an opportunity for a sense of mystery and command. Samira Saidi, in much the biggest role she has yet played, justifies Bintley's choice of her not only by her striking beauty but

by finding an inward stillness that conveys the character's confidence in her supernatural power. She carries off her long solos and the difficult duet at the end with confident skill.

*The Snow Queen* is a long ballet, but it does not feel unduly protracted. How well its dance interest will sustain repeated viewings and varied interpretations remains to be seen. What is clear at first sight is that it offers an evening of exciting entertainment, not least by such tricks as the shattered mirror, the sudden apparition of a giant carnival figure and the use at one point of a tiny puppet.

It suits this company well, too, offering minor roles that are done with great zest, by Anita Landa and Desmond Kelly as Gerda's parents and by several players in the carnival scene. There is also a chance for the women in the final episode to redress the balance of power, which they take with joyous enthusiasm.

John Percival



Roland Price, acting intelligently and sympathetically, with Samira Saidi, confident in the Snow Queen's supernatural powers, thoroughly justifying selection for her biggest role yet

**Opera**  
**Tosca**  
Covent Garden

The shadows of Zeffirelli's *Tosca*, with its flickering candle-light and glowering dawn, can all too easily, 22 years on, threaten to swallow up each act not entirely equal to its epic might. Callas, Cioni and Gobbi have been a hard act to follow. But it could just be that the Royal Opera, for a precious two more performances (tomorrow and Monday) have hit on a team who will provide in their own way fruit for future reminiscent comparison.

That team is Ingvar Wixell, returning as Scarpia, Giuseppe Giacomini in his first Covent Garden Cavaradossi and, above all, the Soviet soprano Natalia Troitskaya, making her British debut. They take the opera and its production - both unashamed archetypes - entirely on its own terms, and in doing so are delighting a eager, cross-legged auditorium audience in this week of the annual Covent Garden Proms.



Superb control and timing: Natalia Troitskaya with Giuseppe Giacomini

Troitskaya sets the scale, creating a silhouette of melodrama whose every shifting profile is as hypnotic to watch as a silent movie. One is left, as if after staring into a bright light for too long, with a sequence of indelibly ingrained images: the fist quivering at the canvas in Act I as the other hand withdraws, trembling, from Scarpia; the outstretched candle-bearing arm; the lurching first step to the parapet. The voice, a pulsating,

chest-orientated Eastern European soprano, fleshes out this Tosca's pride, volatility and dignity with superb control and timing.

That timing comes into its own in the central act. Wixell, who has been preparing with wonderfully understated insinuation a crescendo of presence up to this point, creates with Troitskaya a physical tension greater than any I have sensed here before. It is to Giacomini's credit that, despite a short patch of vocal as well as physical torment at this point, he was able to equal it in Act III. Elegance and eloquence reinforce each other in this dense, totally unhistrionic tenor just as dignity tempers ardour in this Cavaradossi.

With newly invigorated staging by Wilfred Judd, the evening, under a different baton, could just have turned over from good to great. Michael Schonwandt creates a welcome transparency of text and texture, but offers conducting of the short-term, sectional school, observing myopically for too much of the time and tending to breathe alongside rather than with and through his singers and his composer.

Hilary Finch

John Cox (below), whose first production of *The Marriage of Figaro* opens in Glasgow this evening, believes in approaching an opera from its end, searching out the ultimate meaning he finds there: interview by Richard Morrison

## In the luxuriant gardens of the mind

It was only recently that John Cox realized the significance of April 30, the date his new production of *The Marriage of Figaro* for Scottish Opera opens at the Theatre Royal, Glasgow. "I was sitting in bed reading Hildebrandt's Mozart biography. It was late, but I had an inch of whisky left in my glass so I started flicking through the chronology of works. Then I saw it: '1786, May 1, premiere of *Le nozze di Figaro*'. I nearly leapt out of bed. To have come that close to the bicentenary by accident! I know it's going to mean a lot to the cast, and I'm sure the first-night party will take us well into May 1."

It seems improbable that a director with Cox's long-standing Glyndebourne connections should be staging his first *Figaro* at the age of 50. But, as he points out, his Glyndebourne "apprenticeship" coincided with Carl Ebert's celebrated production, which Cox assisted on. "It was such a wonderful production that I think the general feeling at Glyndebourne was that *Figaro* should not be attempted again until something comparable could be achieved. It was out of the repertoire for ages." Then, during Cox's time as Glyndebourne's director of productions (1971-82), it was decided that Peter Hall should do the complete cycle of Da Ponte/Mozart operas.

Cox is not unhappy, however, about coming to *Figaro* comparatively late. "It is one of the great masterpieces of the human spirit, and as such must be daunting. It was part of my five-year plan for Scottish Opera when I came here as general administrator in 1982, and I feel I am more ready for it now than I was on arrival."

Most theatre directors look for a "way in" to a work, but Cox starts by looking for the way out: he thinks the ending through first. "I did a sequence of operas with problem endings. *Ariadne auf Naxos* being the most notorious. You could re-title it 'Waiting for Bacchus', but what the hell do you do when he gets there? So it became a habit for me to start with the last scene, to make the ending 'mean' what the rest is leading up to.

"In *Figaro* the ending is also the most sublime passage: the forgiveness, and the following



ensemble. You scarcely dare breathe while it is being sung. I asked myself why is this taking place in a garden?"

The question has led Cox to explore the eighteenth century's fascination with gardens, both in the literal, horticultural sense and as apt symbols for the Enlightenment concern with the balance between Reason and Nature. "It soon became clear to me that this opera's amazing tangle can only be resolved in a garden. All the man-made artifices, the complications, the carefully-structured intimacies and intrigues in the garden it suddenly all comes out clearly. So what we try to project is the idea that when we are in emotional trouble we should consult nature."

But what about the Count's extra-marital ambitions; surely he is already following his own "nature"? Cox elaborates: "The point about the Count is that he is following nature in the wrong way; he is playing the beast. *Figaro* is a statement of faith in the perfectibility of human relationships. You can have wonderful harmony, but only if you get the balance right; if you don't distort it by greed or lust."

The designer, John Byrne, is a painter, playwright and director in his own right. "He's an astonishing polymath," says Cox, "and the most arresting things about his stage designs are his costumes. They are not just costume designs, they are character-studies down to the smallest detail. Both director and designer are determined that all the opera's concealments and disguises should be convincing. 'I have seen too many *Figaros* lately where the characters stand there in broad daylight, and the only reason they don't see each other is because they don't want to wreck the production. That is design and direction cop-out."

Being the company's artistic director, says Cox, usually ensures he gets the singers he

wants. "I was keen to have Isobel Buchanan doing her first Susanna, however magical her Countess may have been. Curiously, a similar situation arose with Jonathan Summers. I know Covent Garden cast him as *Figaro*, but when I saw him doing *Olegin* for Opera North I knew at once that here was our Count."

Cox moves on to a favourite hobby-horse: the conductor's contribution to a production. He admires György Fischer for involving himself in *Figaro* rehearsals from the outset, but feels this is becoming increasingly rare. "I have had a string of productions recently where, for whatever reason, the conductor has been distinguished by his absence from many stage rehearsals. That can't be good; you have got to collaborate. And occasionally one does get bitter. After all, we directors cannot usually just buzz off and do £2,000 worth of work in three hours, and buzz back again."

Moreover, Cox believes this may account in part for the rise of what has become known as "producer's opera". "Sometimes you hear the comment: 'I don't know why

Conductor X allowed it'. Well, the fact is that Conductor X simply was not around to do anything about it."

Cox himself has generally avoided "producer's opera". He is concerned, however, that the increasing need for opera companies to seek private sponsorship to mount new productions will discourage innovative stagings. "For example, we have just had a sponsorship offer at Scottish Opera, a substantial five-figure sum which we could certainly use. But it came with the proviso that 'in view of recent production trends' the offer would be contingent on the sponsor being involved from the earliest stages in the artistic progress of the project. I cannot even say that is wrong. But I cannot help remembering a phrase that was used to me in Houston ten years ago, when I was doing *Rosencavalier*. Before we went into rehearsal I was told 'you must get concept clearance'. Now, if 'concept clearance' is going to be the name of the game, we must all assess our positions carefully."

After tranquil Glyndebourne, Cox joined Scottish Opera at a traumatic time. Nevertheless he does not regret the move. "At Glyndebourne I directed very much with the audience in mind. If I hadn't I probably would not have had a career. I don't condemn the Glyndebourne audience out of hand, as many do. But opera is really an urban art form, and I find it more meaningful to work in a big city with a broad spectrum of people as your target. Then there is the educational aspect of Scottish Opera, the pioneering work sending out those piano-accompanied *Toscas*, pecked to the bare essentials, to small fishing communities on the east coast where the passion of it comes over amazingly directly. That gives me enormous satisfaction."

## Theatre

**Ballroom**  
**Stratford East**

London theatre-goers have seen little of Wales in recent years, but to judge from this piece by Robert Pugh nothing much has changed since the time of the Thomases, Dylan and Gwyn.

Glamorgan in the Eighties still comes over as a stifling community of twitching net curtains and poisonous gossip, where people get married to punish each other for life and the only satisfactions are those of domestic martyrdom and drink.

Mr Pugh examines several stunted lives in the course of a long evening, but his main story is that of Mary, who discovers that her husband Dick has been sneaking off every Monday for an evening's dancing. At this appalling act of disloyalty she arms herself with a hammer and hides in the back of his van, emerging like an avenging fury on the Top Rank floor, casting a spanner into his tango.

Long before we get to this climax, any hope of comedy has long since evaporated. In tone, the piece amounts to a fatal combination of Strindberg and small-town gossip.

It opens with the sight of Dick and his mates at work, sending down service lockers at an RAF base and swapping small talk about people we have not met, and rough male horseplay that discourages further acquaintance with the company on view.

When the action begins closing in, it is to follow the separate miseries of the orphaned Bob, who gives up university for an ostracized unmarried mother, Ellis, whose wife goes down with cancer, and Mary's old mother who sits at home complaining that nobody comes near her while hurling abuse at anyone who sets foot over her threshold.

Mr Pugh is an actor and a performed author, and the only explanation that I can find for this less than professional piece of work is that it arises from some violently painful experience. Some of the scenes are genuinely painful, particularly when Mary and Dick try to patch up their marriage, only to enter a narrowing spiral of ever-more-bitter rows.

But one is soon rendered punch-drunk by these. You know too well what is coming and the characters simply lurch from exhausted endearments to renewed aggression with no intervening stages between the two extremes. It is so obvious that the only hope these people have is to beat it out of Glamorgan on the next train, that there is small interest in waiting to see how they will next draw blood.

The dance-floor scenes (extremely well accompanied by Colin Snell and Andrew Bush) are much the most stage-worthy of Jonathan Martin's indecisive production. Philip Madoc and June Watson work hard and to small effect as the wretched partners.

Irving Wardle

## Concert

**BBCSO/Baudo**  
**Festival Hall**

Despite everything, Berlioz's *Roméo et Juliette* works as a symphony. "Everything" includes the composer's confusing amalgamation of two different endings (Garrick's and, rather unfashionably for Berlioz's day, Shakespeare's) and his hybrid seven-movement construction: a meditation - part narrative, mostly instrumental - on the play's essential themes.

To these Berlioz added a characteristic personal slant by falling hopelessly in love with an actress he saw playing Juliet.

The symphony has weaknesses. The quasi-ecclesiastical chanting of the story by the chorus at the outset is in theory a good idea that simply does not excite the ear sufficiently, despite the BBC Singers' sophisticated shading of phrases here. The sixth movement follows too closely every machination of Garrick's "improved" death scene for it to work independently, and the finale seems to convert the warring families to the path of righteousness a little too easily before summoning the bombastic triplets of its "big tune".

But the workings of genius outweigh all that and, although Serge Baudo's reading

was inclined to be one-paced (the celebrated *Scène d'amour* sounded, particularly prosaic, at least initially), he amply demonstrated many of the score's riches.

The gradual superimposition of the party music on to Romeo's forlorn unison-violin melody in the second movement was carefully weighted, and the fiddles managed the tricky dance tune neatly. One can imagine more *prestissimo* interpretations of the "Queen Mab" scherzo, but the steady tempo allowed Baudo time to nurture a ravishing, diaphanous texture, marked by some especially delicate horn-playing.

The BBC Singers saved their warmest tone for thethrenodic fugue of the fifth movement. Earlier the male chorus had turned their backs on the audience; it looked like some bizarre, occult homage to the Festival Hall organ, but it created the right "offstage" effect of party revelers.

The soloists have few notes, but they are vital. Sarah Walker, hymning the orange-blossoms and Shakespeare, struck a rich vein of ardent legato; Kim Begley negotiated the tongue-twisting description of Mab confidently; and Jules Bastin brought authentic Gallic fervour to Friar Laurence's plea for reconciliation.

Richard Morrison

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# 'Terror gang' killed Briton, Israelis say

From Ian Murray, Jerusalem

Israeli security police said here that they had arrested "a terror gang" yesterday who had confessed to the murder of an English tourist in East Jerusalem last Sunday and to three other shooting incidents in the city since the beginning of March.

On orders of the examining magistrate the names of those arrested were not released and police refused to say how many were involved. They claimed, however, that the gang were members of the Abu Mousa extremist faction of Fatah, the military wing of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO).

Apart from shooting Mr Brian Appleby outside the Garden Tomb, the gang is said to have killed a Jewish businessman, Mrs Zehava Ben-Ovadia, in her office only 150 yards from the scene of last weekend's murder. Both victims were killed by the same 22 pistol fired from the head.

The other two shootings

involved a West German tourist, wounded as she walked into a convent in the Via Dolorosa, and an American Jew who was grazed by a bullet fired at him after he had prayed at the Western Wall.

The shootings are thought to be at least partly responsible for a reported 40 per cent drop in American tourism to Jerusalem since the start of this year and it is feared that the killing of Mr Appleby will lead to many cancellations of British visitors.

Mr Teddy Kollek, the Mayor of Jerusalem, has decided to write personally to his many celebrity acquaintances around the world to ask them to visit Jerusalem to show there is no danger in travelling to Israel and no reason to panic.

East Jerusalem, he says, is safer than Central Park in New York. "If people stop travelling they are handing Gaddafi and other terrorists their victory on a silver platter," he said.

## Russians end blackout on nuclear leak news

Continued from page 1

of the areas of the fourth power-generating unit and resulted in the destruction of part of the structural elements of the building housing the reactor, its damage and a certain leak of radioactive substances. The three other power generating units have been shut down, they are in order and in the operational reserve.

The Council of Ministers, one of whose deputy chairmen, Mr Boris Shcherbin, is in charge of the hastily-established investigatory commission, stated that "priority measures" were now being taken to deal with the effects of the accident.

The television news bulletin contained no film to show Soviet viewers what these may have been.

In an attempt to allay

mounting international concern at the delay in disclosing details of the grave nuclear incident, the statement concluded: "The state of the radiation situation at the Chernobyl power station and the adjacent territory is being monitored continuously."

Senior Western diplomats in contact with their national in the Ukrainian capital of Kiev reported last night that the Soviet authorities had thrown up an 18-mile security zone around the stricken nuclear plant and evacuated large numbers of citizens.

One diplomat in contact with the city told *The Times*: "We know that an evacuation has been under way from the immediate vicinity of the plant, but we do not know how many people have been involved in it or where they have been taken."

## In gushing praise of fountains



A passer-by resting under the two bronze figure-fountain in Hyde Park. It needs some maintenance, the society says.

A society was formed yesterday to demand more fountains (Hugh Clayton writes). It also wants neglected fountains to be scrubbed and made to work properly.

"I have been busy about fountains for more years than I can remember," Mrs Thekla Sear, founder of The Fountain Society, said. But the society is not the eccentric brainchild of a single enthusiast. It is affiliated to the Civic Trust and its patron is the Prince of Wales. Committee members include Mr Ilyd Harrington, former Labour chairman of the Greater London Council, and Dr Keith Dexter, a Crown Estates commissioner.

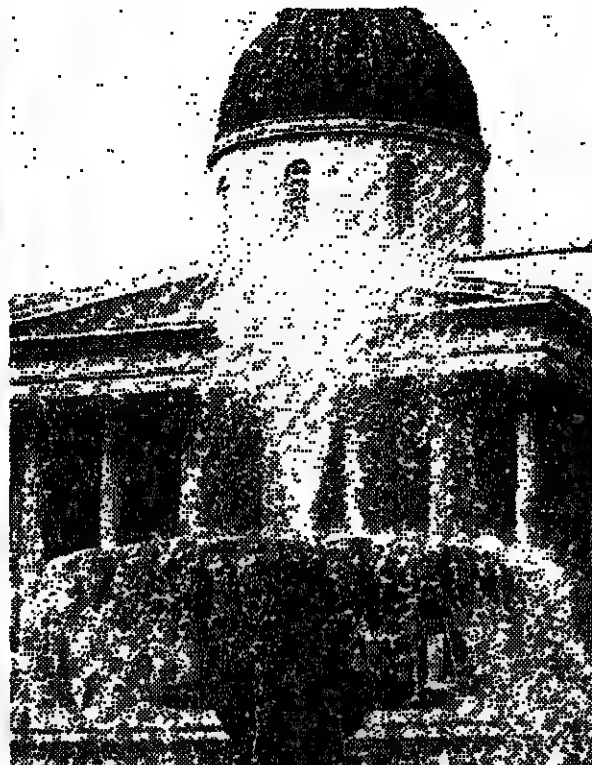
Mrs Sear emphasized that the society was interested only in the type of fountain that could grace a large public area such as a park or shopping parade.

"Who knows, the fountain may unseat the plastic gnome domestically, but that is not really our job," she said. The Fountain Society wants to compile a register of fountains and find places that would benefit from new ones.

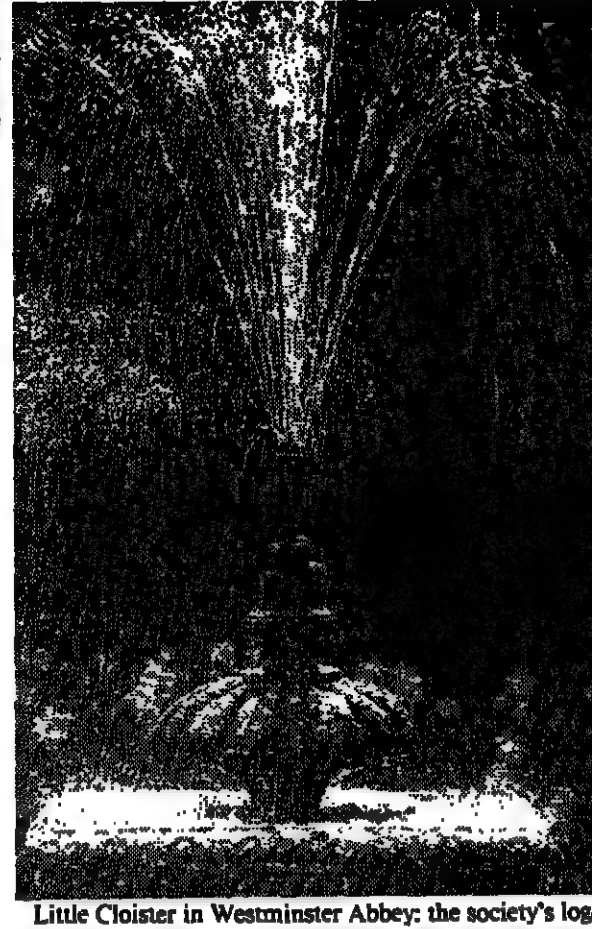
Parliament Square in London was such a place and it ought to be built to celebrate the Queen's 60th birthday last week, Mrs Sear said.

She called for higher jets of water from the famous fountains in Trafalgar Square, and complained that the fountain at Marble Arch was "often at half cock and should play higher."

A fountain with elegant statuary that produced only a feeble dribble of water was no use. "You can have a fantastic fountain, and it can be grotty in no time if the dreaded algae takes over," Mrs Sear said.



Trafalgar Square fountains: the jets could be higher.



Little Cloister in Westminster Abbey: the society's logo.

## Last journey of Duchess ends in simple funeral

Continued from page 1

screen, out of sight of the common mourners, in the stalls where once hung the Duke of Windsor's Garter Banner.

Parliament too paid its respects. The Prime Minister and Mr Denis Thatcher were joined by other party leaders including Mr Neil Kinnock, Dr David Owen and Mr James Molyneux.

The stained glass west window of St George's glowed afire in the sun as the choir sang "We brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out," followed by Psalm 90 with its lines "The days of our age are three score years and ten; and though men be so strong, yet is there strength then but labour and sorrow". So was it with the Duchess, who came to with four score and nine.

### Dignified yet impersonal service

The Right Rev Michael Mann read the lesson from 2 Corinthians: "So long as we are at home in body, we are exiles from the Lord." There was a single hymn, sung with the waning uncertainty of a congregation unaccustomed to the time: "Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us." The final blessing of the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie, delivered without benefit of public address, was lost on most of the congregation, whose appreciation of the service was punctuated by the occasional rumble of aircraft overhead.

It was a simple, dignified service, yet impersonal, with no mention at any stage of the name of the deceased, nor any reference to her life. There was no address; she wanted it that way.

But for a woman born in America who lived over half her life in France, her departure from the church had a quintessential Englishness, as the organ played Elgar's *Nimrod*, and the procession bore her coffin down the aisle to the slowest of martial steps, the feet of the honour guard

beating a funeral tattoo on the paving stones.

The coffin was followed by the Queen and other members of the Royal family, their faces stern and unmoving except for the Prince of Wales who wore an expression of particular sorrow; he had known the Duchess, if briefly, and had made an attempt to bridge two generations.

### Twelve pay their last respects

The coffin was loaded into its hearse by the Welsh Guards at the foot of the west door steps, while the Royal family watched silently. A procession of five black limousines crawled from the chapel's Horseshoe Cloister on the last journey of all, through Windsor Home Park's private roads, away from all public gaze, to the waiting plot at nearby Frogmore.

The Duchess's final companions were the Queen, the Duke of Edinburgh, the Prince and Princess of Wales, her old friend and contemporary Grace, Countess of Dudley, her butler M. Gaston Sanege and his wife, her physician Dr Jean Thin, and four other devoted members of her household staff who in her last infirm years were her only contact with the world.

Away from all other eyes the Dean of Windsor uttered the last simple words of Christian burial, and the Lord Chamberlain, the Earl of Airli, scattered the English earth on the coffin.

Later in the day, her plot beside her beloved David was a profusion of flowers: wreaths of white from other members of the Royal family and from 10 Downing Street; Frogmore will be opened to the public on May 21.

From a life that was public, complex, controversial and often unkind, this was a private, simple and dignified departure to be reunited with the man she loved so much. It was, most of all, the last page of an extraordinary love story. Wallis, Duchess of Windsor, wanted it that way.

## THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

### Today's events

#### Royal engagements

The Queen visits HMSO in its bicentenary year, St Crispian's House, Duke of St. Norwich, 11.30.

The Duke of Edinburgh attends a Royal Society of Arts Committee for the Environment Conference, Royal Society of Arts, John Adam St. WC2, 10.05; and later attends a lunch in aid of the Duchesse Appeal, The Marlborough Terrace, New Zealand House, SW1, 12.45.

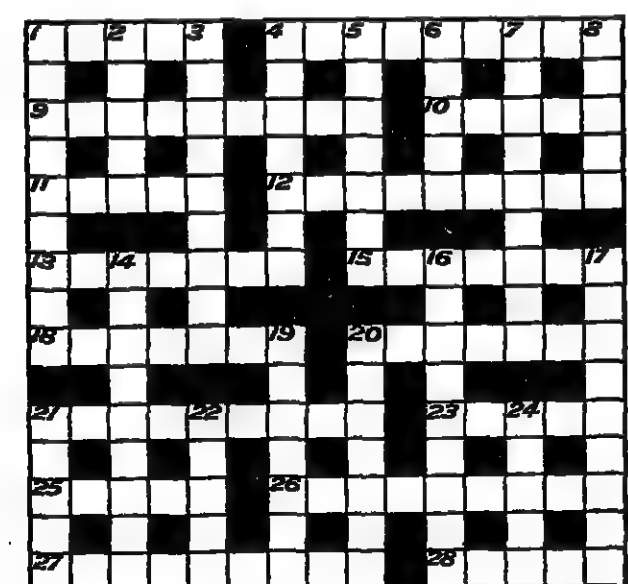
Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother visits the centenary exhibition of the General Electric Company, Wembley Exhibition Centre, 12; and later visits St. Peter's Primary School, Gurnet St. E1, 4.15; and the Royal Foundation of St.

Katharine, Sutherland Row, E14, 5. The Prince and Princess of Wales visit the province of British Columbia, Canada, departure Heathrow, 12.

Princess Anne visits Crestwood School, Eastleigh, Hampshire, 11.15; and opens the Housing and Hostel Scheme for disabled people, Eastleigh, 11.30; afterwards she attends a lunch at the Fire Brigade headquarters, Eastleigh, 1; and then opens a Day Centre for the physically handicapped, Cosham, Hampshire, 2.40; later she attends a gala performance of *La Cage aux Folles*, The Palladium Theatre, Argyll St. W1, 7.30.

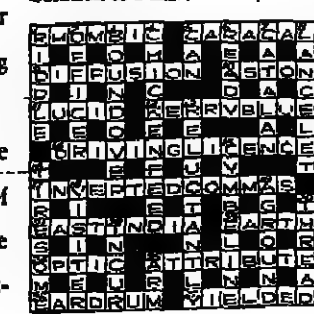
Princess Margaret attends a reception to mark the restoration of the London House Museum, SW7, 12.

### The Times Crossword Puzzle No 17,033



- ACROSS**
- Beat the seeds (5).
  - American general I interrupted and confounded (9).
  - Humpty-Dumpty was so crazy... (2,3,4).
  - Like Mowgli's friend Mung (5).
  - German pursued by Tom (5).
  - Alert TV cameramen focus thus at St Andrews (2,3,4).
  - Broads here and not people (7).
  - Edward accepts one bribe - returns the money paid (7).
  - This dog will break out some day (7).
  - Missionary after being swamped by drink (7).
  - Poor light - a few use it to ask for a stoppage (5,4).
  - Fool returns to one girl (5).
  - Avoid this city in Kansas (5).
  - Plastic label damaged in man's hold (9).
  - Not yet time for Lady Sayer to change (5,4).
  - Taking things the wrong way (5).
- DOWN**
- American sailor's dance (4,5).
  - By and by, making mischief between the two sides (5).
  - All heard why bird outside cowered was put up (9).
  - Love one name of this literary bird (7).
  - Gave an account of the family (7).
  - Weapon was as breech-rumped and confounded (9).
  - Train isn't moving between stations (2,7).
  - Listen to an organ in the valley (5).
  - Dreamer in disturbed rest (9).
  - Exercising foresight, supply good books (9).
  - The way of handling meat cooked in running water (9).
  - Raise your hat to Miss Woodhouse in an awkward situation (7).
  - One who backs American ball (7).
  - Secure Western border (5).
  - Three points to my opponent (5).
  - I am depressed without money to give inspiration (5).

### Solution to Puzzle No 17,032



### Books - hardback

The Literary Editor's selection of interesting books published this week. *A World Apart*, by Gustav Haring, translated by Joseph Mark (Heinemann, 29.95).

Her Majesty's Stationery Office, *The Story of the First 200 Years, 1786-1986*, by Hugh Evelyn-King (Stationery Office, 25).

Longman, *Summer 1986: Pastoral, Teletext, RNA*, translated by Margaret Wren and Walter Arndt (Cape, 215).

Longman Dictionary of Art, by Judy Martin (Longman, 29.95).

Subsequent Performances, by Jonathan Miller (Faber, 21.95).

The Architectural History of King's College Chapel, by Francis Woodman (Routledge & Kegan Paul, 150).

The Oxford History of the Classical World, by John Boardman, Jasper Griffin, and Oswyn Murray (Oxford, 225).

With a Poet's Eye, A Tate Gallery anthology, edited by Pat Adams (Tate Gallery, 29.95, paperback 25.95).

### The pound

	Bank	Bank
Australia \$	2.21	2.21
Austria Sch	25.42	25.42
Belgium F	36.36	36.36
Canada \$	2.21	2.21
Denmark Kr	12.57	12.57
France F	6.55	6.55
Germany DM	2.36	2.36
Italy L	1.36	1.36
Japan Yen	163.60	163.60
Netherlands G	2.36	2.36
Portugal Esc	200.48	200.48
Spain Ptas	166.64	166.64
Sweden Kr	4.66	4.66
Switzerland Fr	2.36	2.36
USA \$	1.61	1.61
Yugoslavia Dnr	89.00	89.00

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

Retail Price Index: 381.8

The FT index closed up 26.9 at 1991.2.

Parliament today

Cannocks (2.30): Public Order Bill, remaining stages.

Lords (2.30): Debate on social effects of Government policies.

### Portfolio Gold

Times Portfolio Gold rates are as follows. The Times Portfolio is a free. Purchase of the Times is not a condition of subscription.

2 Times Portfolio list comprises a group of companies, each with a share in the Times Portfolio. The list will change from day to day, but the value of the list will be maintained at 100p. The list is divided into 11 shares. Every Portfolio card contains a list of the companies in the list and the price of each share.

3 Times Portfolio "dividend" will be the figure in pence which represents the largest increase or lowest loss of a company's share price over the period of the list. The list will be published in the Times on the day after the dividend is paid. The list will be published in the Times on the day after the dividend is paid.

4 If the overall price movement of the list is up, the list will be published in the Times on the day after the dividend is paid. The list will be published in the Times on the day after the dividend is paid.

5 All claims are subject to scrutiny and will be paid in full. The list will be published in the Times on the day after the dividend is paid. The list will be published in the Times on the day after the dividend is paid.

6 Employees of News International and other companies who are involved in the list will be paid in full. The list will be published in the Times on the day after the dividend is paid. The list will be published in the Times on the day after the dividend is paid.

7 The above instructions are subject to both daily and weekly dividend claims.

## Weather forecast

A ridge of high pressure will keep S areas dry and mainly sunny. A SW airflow will spread cloud and some rain to N and some W parts.

### 6 am to midnight

London, SE, central S, SW England, East Angles, Midlands, Channel Islands: Dry with sunny intervals; wind SW moderate; max temp 18C (61F).

Wales, NW England: Cloudy at times, occasional drizzle; rain patches; wind SW moderate; max temp 15C (59F).

Edinburgh, Glasgow, Aberdeen: Cloudy with outbreaks of rain at first, sunny intervals developing; rain fog patches; wind SW moderate; max temp 16C (61F).

SW, NW Scotland: Argyle: Mainly cloudy, occasional rain or drizzle, but fog wind SW moderate; max temp 14C (57F).

Gloucester, Central Highlands: Mainly cloudy, occasional rain or drizzle, but fog wind SW moderate; max temp 15C (59F).

Orkney, Shetland: Becoming mainly cloudy with outbreaks of rain; wind S strong; max temp 11C (52F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Friday: Mainly dry and sunny in the South, with some rain or drizzle in the N, especially near W coasts where there will be fog at times. Some sun in sheltered E areas. Rather warm in many places.

Lighting-up time

London 5.52 pm to 5.00 am  
Bristol 5.01 pm to 5.00 am  
Edinburgh 5.19 pm to 5.05 am  
Manchester 5.08 pm to 5.05 am  
Penzance 5.05 pm to 5.05 am

### Yesterday

Temperatures at midday yesterday: C. cloud; f, fog; r, rain; s, sun.

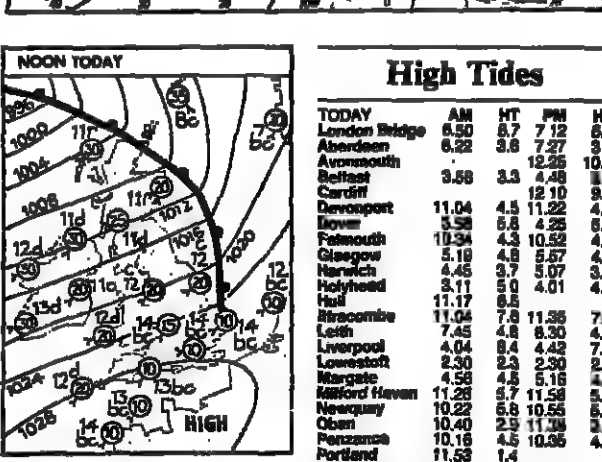
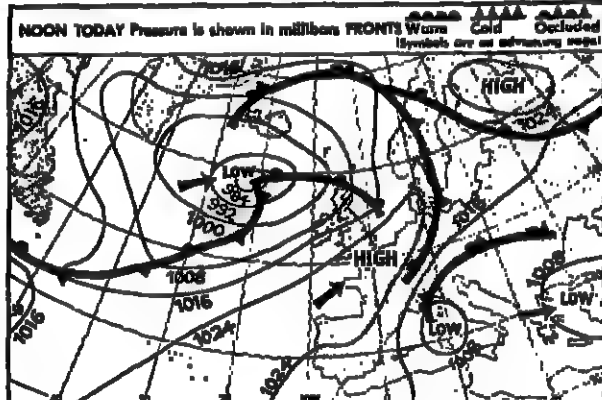
Belmont 10.00 Guernsey 10.50  
Birmingham 12.54 Inverness 10.50  
Blackpool 10.50 Jersey 10.50  
Belfast 11.52 London 11.52  
Cardiff 11.52 Manchester 11.52  
Edinburgh 11.52 Newcastle 11.52  
Glasgow 11.52

### Telephoning China

Telephone users will be able to dial direct to China in two or three months time.

A three-minute call to Peking, Shanghai and 24 other centres will cost £3.45 including VAT, £2.50 more than a call made through the operator.

The International Direct Dialling Service will begin when new switching centres in China are completed.



Blue sky, blue sky and cloud; C, cloud; d, drizzle; f, fog; r, rain; s, sun; t, thunder; v, very; w, wind; x, snow; y, shower; z, squall.

### Around Britain

EAST COAST					SOUTH COAST					WEST COAST				
Area	Sun	Cloud	Max	Min	Area	Sun	Cloud	Max	Min	Area	Sun	Cloud	Max	Min
London	2.8	11	13	8	Wescombe	1.2	11	12	8	Wescombe	1.2	11	12	8
South Coast	1.1	13	15	10	Cardiff	2.8	11	12	8	Cardiff	2.8	11	12	8
Wales	1.1	13	15	10	Exeter	1.2	11	12	8	Exeter	1.2	11	12	8
North Coast	1.1	13	15	10	Gloucester	1.2	11	12	8	Gloucester	1.2	11	12	8
Yorkshire	1.1	13	15	10	Leeds	1.2	11	12	8	Leeds	1.2	11	12	8
Derbyshire	1.1	13	15	10	Sheffield	1.2	11	12	8	Sheffield	1.2	11	12	8
Lincolnshire	1.1	13	15	10	Nottingham	1.2	11	12	8	Nottingham	1.2	11	12	8
Nottingham	1.1	13	15	10	Leicester	1.2	11	12	8	Leicester	1.2	11	12	8
Leeds	1.1	13	15	10	Sheffield	1.2	11	12	8	Sheffield	1.2	11	12	8
Sheffield	1.1	13	15	10	Nottingham	1.2	11	12	8	Nottingham	1.2	11	12	8
Leicester	1.1	13	15	10	Sheffield	1.2	11	12	8	Sheffield	1.2	11	12	8
Nottingham	1.1	13	15	10	Leicester	1.2	11	12	8	Leicester	1.2	11	12	8
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Sheffield	1.1	13	15	1										



## STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share  
1391.2 (+25.9)  
FT-SE 100  
1656.3 (+27.5)  
USM (Datastream)  
119.80 (+0.3)

## THE POUND

US Dollar  
1.5535 (+0.0015)  
W German mark  
3.3781 (+0.0196)  
Trade-weighted  
76.8 (+0.2)

## Blue Circle in talks

Blue Circle Industries, the cement company, is planning further expansion in America after last year's acquisitions of Atlantic Cement and Williams Bros.

The chairman, Mr John Milne, said yesterday that talks were under way with a number of parties.

Pretax profits in the year to December 31 rose from £113 million to £117 million on turnover of £947 million, up from £870 million. United States pretax profits rose from £18.3 million to £22.8 million, making it the biggest contributor to group profits last year. At home profits fell from £25.1 million to £20.5 million because of bad weather at the start of the year and the costs of modernizing two cement plants. The final dividend has been increased from 14p to 15p, making the total for the year 21p (20p).

## Tootal success

Tootal's pretax profits for the year to January 31 jumped 20 per cent from £22.9 million to £27.4 million on turnover of £10.9 million, up from £9.4 million. The dividend was increased by 29 per cent from 3.1p to 4p.

Tempus, page 19

## Builder listing

Westbury is coming to the stock market via an offer for sale of 10.9 million shares at 145p each valuing the West Country builder at £39.2 million.

Tempus, page 19

## Tarmac rise

Tarmac's pretax profits for the year to December 31 rose 23 per cent from £109.6 million to £135.2 million. The dividend is up by 17.7 per cent to 9.4p.

Tempus, page 19

## Above target

Jacques Vert, a women's fashion designer and manufacturer, reports pretax profits of £1.7 million for the year to January 19 — 67 per cent up on last year and just above the £1.65 million forecast made when it came to the USM four months ago.

## Surveyors poll

Members of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors will vote at an extraordinary meeting in July on whether unlimited outside investment should be permitted in companies of chartered surveyors.

## Bank sale

Lloyds Bank yesterday confirmed the sale, announced in February, of Lloyds Bank California to Golden State Savings Bank. A price of about \$263 million (£170 million) in cash has been agreed.

## Burnett snub

Anglo United Development's plan to bid £42 million for Burnett and Hallamshire received a setback when the Burnett board refused last night to provide financial assurances about the state of the business.

## MARKET SUMMARY

## STOCK MARKETS

New York  
Dow Jones 1824.16 (+19.59)  
Tokyo  
Nikkei Dow N/T  
Hong Kong  
Hang Seng 1825.29 (+22.36)  
Amsterdam Gen 267.0 (+0.5)  
Sydney AD 1208.1 (+2.2)  
Frankfurt  
Commerzbank 2178.7 (+41.0)  
Brussels  
General 564.77 (+21.33)  
Paris CAC 402.7 (same)  
Zurich  
S&A General 540.90

## INTEREST RATES

London  
Bank Base 10%  
3-month interbank 10%  
3-month eligible bills 10%  
buying rate  
US  
Prime Rate 8.50%  
Federal Funds 6.75%  
3-month Treasury bill 6.08-6.07%  
30-year bonds 12.1%

## CURRENCIES

London  
£/\$ 1.5535  
£/DM 3.3781  
£/Yen 280.27  
Index 76.8

## MAIN PRICE CHANGES

RISES:  
Blue Circle 718p (+45)  
GEC 205p (+12)  
GEC 313p (+17)  
Gunnesh 178p (+11)  
Hanson 334p (+15)  
ICI 880p (+15)  
Newwest 532p (+16)  
Constan 560p (+10)  
Brit aerospace 180p (+17)  
Johnson Matthey 388p (+14)  
Glyndwr 177p (+15)  
Tosco 455p (+10)  
Jaguar 458p (+13)  
Rauter 480p (+15)  
Vaux Brew 375p (+10)  
Tesco 884p (+17)  
Reed Int 360p (+15)  
United News 720p (+25)  
Metal Box 295p (+20)  
Whitman Reeve 140p (+13)  
Great Universal Strs 140p (+13)  
Alcon 358p (+20)  
Burmah 609p (+15)

## FALLS:

Becham 405p (-8)  
Tate & Lyle 633p (-5)  
Bar Wallace 1160p (-9)  
Lee Int 155p (-6)

## GOLD

London Fixing:  
AM \$342.35 pm \$342.45  
Close \$345.50-346.00 (£222.00-222.50)  
New York  
Comex \$345.80-346.30

## CBI calls for further 1.5% cut in interest rates

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

Business leaders yesterday called for another "substantial" cut in interest rates — probably as much as 1.5 per cent — to bring industry's financial costs into line with overseas competitors.

The Confederation of British Industry, releasing the results of its latest quarterly trends survey, which shows rising business optimism, also published figures indicating Britain's lack of international competitiveness in the relative cost of money.

After recent cuts, Britain's real level of interest rates, taking into account inflation, was 3.96 per cent, the CBI said, compared with 3.85 per cent in the United States, 4.49 per cent in West Germany and 2.17 per cent in Japan.

Mr David Wigglesworth,

the chairman of the CBI's economic situation committee, said: "With inflation falling fast, we call on the Government to make further cuts to get our real borrowing costs down to a comparable level with our major international rivals."

The latest quarterly survey of manufacturing, the 100th conducted by the CBI, shows that business optimism is at its highest level since a year ago and Mr Wigglesworth said a summer recovery of about the same level as last year was expected.

But he warned that falling oil prices had caused particular uncertainty among businessmen, and three months of colder-than-normal weather had hit high street retailers and their industrial suppliers.

Significantly, 30 per cent of

companies say that political and economic conditions abroad are among the factors likely to limit export contracts in the next four months, the highest proportion for a year. The survey was taken before the latest Libyan crisis.

The survey, covering a total of 1,588 companies, indicates that 21 per cent are more optimistic about the general business situation than they were four months ago and that a quarter expect output to rise.

The CBI said this was comparable with early autumn last year but failed to match the buoyancy of last spring when 33 per cent of companies expected rising output.

Mr Wigglesworth said: "It would be wrong to overstate the recovery in optimism.

Twenty-one per cent of companies report an increase in output over the last four months, but the same proportion reports a decrease. In the coming four months a positive balance of 14 per cent is expected to improve output, the highest since 1982.

However, 57 per cent of companies say they are working below capacity and employment in manufacturing is forecast to continue to decline by 5,000 a month between January and July.

Growth in manufacturing investment is expected to slow to a rate of 2.6 per cent for 1986 compared with 1985.

But industry's costs are coming down, with a balance of just 18 per cent of firms expecting rises in the coming four months, the lowest since summer 1984.

## Cheap oil could force more pit closures, NCB hints

By Jeremy Warner, Business Correspondent

A new round of pit closures and job losses in the coal industry was signalled yesterday by Mr Ian MacGregor, chairman of the National Coal Board.

Mr MacGregor gave warning that the slump in oil prices had put pressure on the coal industry to further reduce production costs.

The warning came as the NCB announced a transformation of its financial position with news of its best performance for seven years.

Mr MacGregor said the industry lost £50 million in the last financial year, compared with £875 million in 1983-84, the last year to be unaffected by the miners' strike. The result was some £300 million better than the board forecast at the beginning of the financial year.

He said competitive conditions resulting from the slump in the oil price would make it more difficult to meet the Treasury's target of breakeven in this financial year.

And he coupled his comments with a new plea to the National Union of Mine-workers to accept the board's pay offer, due to expire today.



Ian MacGregor: NCB result £300m better than forecast

In a special issue of *Coal News*, the NCB said the offer had been on the table for four-and-a-half months.

"During this time, there has been a serious deterioration in the industry's competitive position and financial prospects, because of the substantial fall in oil prices."

"The NCB is now having to face negotiations with the Central Electricity Generating Board on price reductions for coal in view of what has happened to international oil prices and the issues have to be faced, not ignored."

Mr MacGregor said talks with the CEBG, the coal

industry's biggest customer, were going well. He was confident of reaching a compromise solution on prices which would recognize both what he called the "temporary advantage in the energy market of a glut in oil" and the long-term contribution to stable energy costs that coal could provide.

He said the NCB was determined to maintain its overall share of the British energy market.

"What oil company can tell you the price of oil next year," he asked.

"We are prepared to sign five-year contracts to supply coal."

Mr MacGregor, who is nearing the end of his term as chairman, said the past year had been a new start for the coal industry and though what was happening to energy prices made the task more difficult, he was determined to build on the achievements.

The industry would be re-named British Coal, in line with other enterprises such as British Gas.

Announcing the preliminary results, the NCB disclosed that a further four pit closures had been agreed and three more were in the appeals process against closure.

## ADR tax reduced to 1.5%

By Our Economics Correspondent

The Treasury yesterday responded to criticism of its controversial 5 per cent conversion tax on American Depositary Receipts (ADRs) by reducing the rate to 1.5 per cent.

The reduction was announced by Mr John MacGregor, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, during the second reading of the Finance Bill in the Commons.

He said that, in the light of representations received since the Budget, it had been decided that a rate of 1.5 per cent was sufficient to prevent avoidance of stamp duty by British institutions.

ADRs are British and other non-US shares denominated in dollars and packaged in amounts familiar to US investors. About 16 per cent of ICT's shares are held in this form.

The Treasury has maintained that the proposed 5 per cent conversion tax on ADRs, announced in the March 18 Budget, was not to prevent US investors holding British shares in ADR form, but to stop British investors avoiding stamp duty by doing so.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Nigel Lawson, said in a written Parliamentary answer that he had examined the rate of tax needed to eliminate the incentive to avoid stamp duty by British investors, and had decided that 1.5 per cent was appropriate both to do this and to provide recompense for any lost stamp duty revenue remaining.

The 1.5 per cent rate will apply to all British shares in bearer form.

Mr Lawson also announced seven-day exemption from stamp duty for broker-dealers, and the removal of stamp duty from most loan stocks.

The protest lobby against the ADR tax — it included ICI — had proposed an alternative which would have penalized only British users of ADRs.

## Record profit for ENI

The Italian state oil corporation, ENI, yesterday announced a record net profit of 816 billion lire (£534 million) for 1985 after four successive years of losses. Group revenue was L46,708 billion.

The chairman, Signor Franco Reviglio, said that the group, which employs 129,268 people in 293 companies, had made a more dramatic improvement than the major international oil companies.

Law Report, page 21

## Elders loses court case over Lyons bid secrets

By Alison Eadie

Elders IXL, the Australian brewing to agriculture group, yesterday lost its court battle to stop the Monopolies and Mergers Commission disclosing confidential information about its bid plans to Allied Lyons, the target company.

Mr Justice Mann ruled in the High Court that, if the commission reasonably believed it could not perform its investigative function without the benefit of an informed view from Allied, it was entitled to disclose the information.

Elders, which has until Friday to appeal, was waiting to see the written judgment, which is available today, before deciding what action to take. The chairman of Allied, Sir Derrick Holden-Brown, expressed delight with the court decision.

Elders had argued that revealing such information would be highly prejudicial to its chances of successfully acquiring Allied-Lyons, the British brewing and food group, its £1.8 billion bid for Allied was referred to the commission in December.

Since the reference Allied has made a £1.2 billion bid for Hiram-Walker's drinks division, which would make it a much larger company for Elders to swallow.

Elders has also had an Aus\$1.2 billion (£570 million) injection of capital after Broken Hill Proprietary took a 20 per cent stake.

Law Report, page 21

## NatWest is top for lending controls, says survey

By Richard Thomson, Banking Correspondent

National Westminster Bank has the most effective lending controls of the big four clearing banks followed, surprisingly, by Midland, according to a review of bank lending published yesterday.

The survey says the quality of banking controls is the best indicator of the quality of a bank's loan book, which has become of increasing concern over the last few years as bad debts have escalated.

Scrimgeour Vickers, the stockbroker, has carried out what it claims is the first comprehensive survey of the controls banks impose on their lending and the criteria they impose on lending decisions.

The survey concludes that NatWest's method of double checking helps put it far ahead of the other three clearers in maintaining the quality of its loans.

The NatWest system means that all but the smallest loans are assessed both by a lending

officer, who meets the customer, and by a representative of the Advances Department, which has an independent responsibility for risk assessment and performance ratings.

The other three banks rely simply on one assessment by a lending officer.

NatWest also scores by having more detailed exposure guidelines and more detailed controls on off-balance sheet risk and country risk than most of its competitors.

Barclays and Lloyds are criticized for having no independent finance director on their boards who is responsible for prudential controls rather than lending.

Barclays's lending control mechanism tends to be dominated by committees which produce "uninspiring" results. Lloyds is introducing a sophisticated new "capital allocation system" but it has had little time yet to affect the lending portfolio.

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

## Bank plays it safe with new debt market

The Government has finally given the go-ahead to the long-awaited sterling commercial paper market, allowing companies to issue short-term debt securities of between seven days and one year under their own name. The move adds another weapon to the armoury of corporate financing arrangements and could lead to a multi-billion pound market if it takes off in this country as it has done in the US in recent years.

John MacGregor, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, yesterday told Parliament during the Finance Bill debate that the Banking Act restrictions on companies issuing their own debt instruments of less than one year would be swept away. The Bank of England followed up swiftly with a detailed list of rules laying out the framework of the new market — and the list makes interesting reading. It makes clear that the Bank is taking no risks and prefers a policy of gradually loosening the screws rather than an immediate free-for-all.

Companies allowed to issue commercial paper will only be those with a Stock Exchange listing and net assets of at least £50 million. Wholly-owned subsidiaries of such companies can issue paper as long as it is guaranteed by the parent. Banks, building societies and licensed deposit-takers, on the other hand, may not issue commercial paper on the grounds that they already have access to certificates of deposit. Their role will be limited to managing and guaranteeing commercial paper programmes.

To ensure that the new market remains purely professional, the minimum issue size is set at £500,000 — enough to discourage even the most adventurous private investors. This will help to get round the problem of prospectuses. The Companies Act requires all companies to publish a prospectus with every issue of debt securities. This is an impossibly cumbersome requirement for a short-term market like commercial paper and will be modified in the forthcoming Financial Services Act later this year. But in the

meantime, the Companies Act does allow the issue of securities without prospectuses as long as they are sold only to professional investors.

The rule which will cause the most disappointment, though, is certain to be that limiting the management of commercial paper programmes only to banks and licensed deposit-takers incorporated in the UK. The Bank insists that this is a purely temporary measure against the time (unlikely to be in the near future) when banking supervision rules are the same throughout the world.

In the meantime, it can only ensure a level playing field by limiting the game to those under its own supervision, although it has left open the possibility of making exceptions of individual institutions. Unfortunately, by excluding many, such as the US securities houses with their wide experience of the US market, the Bank may be holding back the early development of the commercial paper market in this country.

The Government's move received a predictably warm welcome in the City. Most of the clearing and merchant banks have been building up commercial paper teams over the past few months, and there is clearly a demand for the new market from commercial borrowers. Commercial paper, after all, is fast, flexible and fairly cheap in comparison to other short-term funding options.

But there is unlikely to be a sudden bonanza. Banks will advise their clients to move cautiously at least until the wrinkles of the Bank of England rulebook have been ironed out and until the market has developed an efficient pricing mechanism.

And not everyone will need the new market. The large trading corporations — the ICIs of this world — will probably find that bankers' acceptances are still a cheaper form of short-term borrowing. While many borrowers may hurry to announce commercial paper programmes (giving them an issuing facility), the amount of paper actually issued early on is likely to be small.

## No words over the figures

The Industrial Trends Survey, now published quarterly by the Confederation of British Industry, has acquired all the respectability suitable to a barometer which has just given its hundredth reading. The survey, based on questionnaires filled in by nearly 1,600 firms, has found its way into the corridors of official statistics. Its findings are incorporated into the Central Statistical Office's indices of longer-leading, shorter-leading and coincident indicators of the state of the British economy, as well as in the composite survey of business sentiment in Europe compiled by the European Commission.

More controversially, the CBI's monthly trends inquiry is now used by government statisticians to boost the monthly statistics of manufacturing output, whose initial downward bias has been a source of irritation to Treasury ministers: an

intriguing example of government preference for private-sector information to the product of its own fact-finding machine.

There is a further example: in its recent Budget forecast, the Treasury openly plumped for CBI evidence that investment will continue to rise strongly, in preference to the gloomier results of the investment intentions survey carried out by the Department of Trade and Industry.

Such touching faith in the statistical prowess of the CBI contrasts starkly with the Treasury's view of the CBI's economic prescriptions. Although relations between the employers' organization and the Government are gentler than in the days when bare knuckles were clenched in front of Mrs Thatcher, the CBI's views on the need for lower interest rates, membership of the European Monetary System and public investment packages are a series of thorns in government flesh.

## Profits at an all time record of £27.4m

"I am delighted that the Board have been able to justify the support and confidence of shareholders. Profits have risen by 19.8% to an all time record of £27.4m (1984/85: £22.9m) and the proposed final dividend of 2.5p will bring the total dividend for the year to 4p per ordinary share (1984/85: 3.1p per share). I look to a satisfactory increase in earnings and dividend in the current year."

Alan Wagstaff  
CHAIRMAN

## 1985/86 RESULTS



If you would like to know more about us, write to the Secretary for a copy of our current Report & Accounts, Tootal Group plc, Tootal House, 19-21 Spring Gardens, Manchester M2 2TL.

Our names add up to strength

	1985/86	1984/85
Sales	£7,000	£7,000
Profit on ordinary activities before tax	388,040	435,356
Earnings per share	9.4p	7.5p
Dividends per share	4.0p	3.1p
Return on capital employed	18.6%	16.0%

The above results are extracted from the full Group accounts for the year ended 31 January 1986, which are an unaudited summary and will be audited by the Registrar of Companies.



## WALL STREET

New York (Agencies) - Shares in the New York Stock Exchange advanced in early trading yesterday, with blue chips extending their rally, and secondary issues following slightly, traders said.

American Express led the rally up 1 1/2 to 62 1/2. A 10 million share buyback programme was announced on Monday.

The Dow Jones industrial average was up 8 points to 1,852, just below the closing high of 1,855.90. Advances led declines by three to two on 12.3 million shares traded.

IBM rose 1/2 to 161 1/4, adding to recent gains. ATT climbed 1/4 to 25 1/4, leading the actives.

The Dow transportation average was down 0.25 points to 815.01, and utilities were down 1.44 points to 184.14.

The Dow Jones Industrial			1.34 Points to 184.14.		
	Apr 26	Apr 25		Apr 26	Apr 25
AMC	50 1/8	49 1/8	Easton Corp	58	57 1/2
ASA	55 1/2	54 1/2	Fed Corp	78 3/4	79 1/2
AT&T	25 1/4	25 1/4	Gen Corp	82 1/2	82 1/2
AXP	100 1/2	100 1/2	Per Chem	82 1/2	81 1/2
BAC	100 1/2	100 1/2	Per Chem	82 1/2	81 1/2
BOJ	100 1/2	100 1/2	Per Chem	82 1/2	81 1/2
BSX	100 1/2	100 1/2	Per Chem	82 1/2	81 1/2
CA	100 1/2	100 1/2	Per Chem	82 1/2	81 1/2
CC	100 1/2	100 1/2	Per Chem	82 1/2	81 1/2
CE	100 1/2	100 1/2	Per Chem	82 1/2	81 1/2
CF	100 1/2	100 1/2	Per Chem	82 1/2	81 1/2
CH	100 1/2	100 1/2	Per Chem	82 1/2	81 1/2
CI	100 1/2	100 1/2	Per Chem	82 1/2	81 1/2
CJ	100 1/2	100 1/2	Per Chem	82 1/2	81 1/2
CK	100 1/2	100 1/2	Per Chem	82 1/2	81 1/2
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## Portfolio Gold

From your portfolio card check your share price movements. Add them to give you your overall total. Check against the daily dividend figure on this page. If it matches you have won outright or a share of the total prize money stated. If you are a new subscriber follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. You must always have your card available when claiming.

Company	Group	Code or Index
1. Amec	Building, Roads	
2. Gent SR	Drapery, Stores	
3. Bryant	Building, Roads	
4. Aspic Fisheries	Food	
5. Coates Bros	Chemicals, Plastics	
6. Grenall Whitley	Breweries	
7. Nils Foods	Food	
8. Allied Colloids	Chemicals, Plastics	
9. Lee Cooper	Drapery, Stores	
10. Bassett Foods	Food	
11. Storehouse	Drapery, Stores	
12. Phoenix Timber	Building, Roads	
13. Burton	Drapery, Stores	
14. Coates Vyella	Drapery, Stores	
15. McAlpine (Alfred)	Building, Roads	
16. Main Trade Supp	Food	
17. Royal Bank of Scotland	Bank, Discount	
18. Prince of Wales Hotel	Hotel, Catering	
19. Laing (J)	Building, Roads	
20. RHM	Food	
21. BICC	Chemicals	
22. Hiltop Hides	Food	
23. Chubb	Electricals	
24. Forward Tech	Electricals	
25. Panton	Drapery, Stores	
26. Rubert	Building, Roads	
27. Sireley	Industrial S-Z	
28. Brookhouse Dudley	Building, Roads	
29. Lincolns Kilgour	Drapery, Stores	
30. Hambros	Bank, Discount	
31. Transport Dev	Industrial S-Z	
32. Heath CE	Building, Roads	
33. Marshall (Hailin)	Insurance	
34. Abbey Life	Insurance	
35. Empire Stores	Drapery, Stores	
36. Mercury Int	Bank, Discount	
37. Wellcome	Industrial S-Z	
38. Atlantic Comp	Electricals	
39. Chloride	Electricals	
40. Smith (WH) A	Drapery, Stores	
41. Tomkins (FH)	Industrial S-Z	
42. Hill Samuel	Bank, Discount	
43. Bentalls	Drapery, Stores	
44. Sycamore	Industrial S-Z	

### Weekly Dividend

Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £8,000 in Saturday's newspaper.

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN

### BRITISH FUNDS

1986	High	Low	Open	Close
100				

### SHORTS (Under Five Years)

97	87	Trans	1964	48	95	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
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# Start-up entrepreneurs face a cut in salary

By Derek Harris, Industrial Editor

The 1986 entrepreneur is most likely to be an ex-manager, aged over 35, with a professional qualification or degree and about £50,000 to invest. Taking the entrepreneurial route will also probably mean taking a cut in salary.

A major problem is lack of both personal and external finance. So, less expectedly, is the lack of a suitable management team, identified as a problem by 40 per cent of those in a new survey profiling the typical entrepreneur.

The survey, by Mori, the pollster, covered entrepreneurs receiving help from the British Venture Capital Association, which commissioned it. One in three of the entrepreneurs identified quality and skills of management as a major problem.

According to the survey, "If you wish to raise venture capital you will need a proven management team and be prepared to invest a significant sum personally and to take a salary cut. Having done this, you should be able to look forward to a major growth in your investment - and a lot of hard work."

Personal investment by entrepreneurs varies considerably. One in four invested less than £10,000 and one in seven more than £100,000. The investments seem to have been successful, with about half of those surveyed valuing their present stakes at more than £200,000, while one in five thought their shares were worth more than £1 million.

Excluding the investment in their own businesses and any pension fund entitlements, half those questioned estimated their personal net worth at more than £200,000.

Most seemed content with growth in the value of their shares rather than taking high salaries. About 64 per cent have annual salaries - including the effect of fringe benefits - of less than £43,000 while another 23 per cent are in the £40,000 to £50,000 bracket, only 1 per cent receive more than £100,000.

One in three of those surveyed identified taking a salary cut and lack of financial skills as problems. But few were worried about loss of status, family opposition or a lack of suitable business ideas.

Indicators of venture capital led to turnover increase in three out of four ventures, and half reported a big effect on numbers employed. On average it meant taking on between 30 and 40 workers.

About 60 per cent of those in the survey had increased their investment in product development, improved their sales and marketing effectiveness and enlarged their production capacity. But four out of 10 felt that finding additional capital could pose a big problem.

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## Computer voice gives rating

By Our Industrial Editor

A speaking computer is being used in a low cost company information service on offer from today by Dun & Bradstreet, which claims to be the world's biggest credit reference agency.

The agency has been operating a similar service from its United States headquarters for two years, but it says that this is the first time the latest voice technology has been used for credit references in Britain.

The telephone service, called DunsVoice, uses the recorded voice of a British actress. Information is given on such items as a company's credit rating, its latest accounts and whether it has county court judgments against it. This enables an assessment to be made on whether it would be an acceptable company with which to do business.

Normally a credit search on a company costs from £15 but the new service will mean an average cost of £6 to £7.

It would enable frequent checks on a company to be made, and should be especially useful to those like wholesalers dealing with a large number of comparatively small accounts.

Dun & Bradstreet has about 1.4 million British limited companies in its database, and subscribers to its service have to pay a minimum of £150 to buy units.

## Steetley names new deputy chairman

APPOINTMENTS

Steetley: Mr J S Kerridge has become deputy chairman. Minter Don: Mr George Cartwright has been made managing director.

Conney and Barrow: Mr Nicholas Stanley is to become managing director. The Goodyear Tyre & Rubber Company (Great Britain): Mr Robin J. Balle, a former Minister for Industry and Commerce, has become a non-executive director.

UK Petroleum Industry Association: Mr J. K. Kew (Shell) has been elected president. Mr R E. Lintott (Esso) and Mr N G. Roden (Conoco) are vice-presidents and Mr C S. Walsh (Elf) treasurer.

Cifer: Mr Ellis Conway has joined the company as sales and marketing director.

Peterborough Data Processing Services: The new board comprises Mr Ian K. Evans-Gordon (chairman), Mr David Laking (group managing director), Mr Tony Bews, Mr Sandy Scott, Mr Peter Pressland and Mr Michael Burton (vice-chairman). Mr Burton, Mr Laking, Mr Bews and Mr Scott are also on the board of Peterborough Software.

Debenhams: Mr Bob Falcomer has been named as director of stores operations.

Alexander, Hughes & Associates UK: Mrs Elaine Sanderland and Mr James Hoffman have become directors in the consumer marketing division.

National Westminster Bank: Mr Michael Porter has been appointed executive director for the bank's City region.



Ellis Conway

H Clarkson Holdings: Mr M J Wade has been made a director.

TI Group: Mr Howard J. Atkins is to join the company as chairman and managing director of the domestic appliances division, succeeding Mr Sinclair Thomson.

Manufacturers Hanover Export Finance: Mr John A. Greaves, Mr Tony Crowther-Green and Mr John F. Kemp have become executive directors.

John Laing Construction: Mr Alan Chaney becomes director of finance and Mr Peter Spriggs assistant director of finance.

Linklaters & Paines: Mr Alan Barker, Mr Stephen Boughton, Mr Michael Canby, Mr Anthony Grundy, Mr Raymond Jeffers, Mr Christopher Johnson-Gilbert, Mr Keith Thompson and Mr Tom Wethered have joined the partnership.

## Law Report April 30 1986

# Commission's disclosure of finance plans is lawful

*Regina v Monopolies and Mergers Commission, Ex parte Elders Ltd Ltd*  
[Judgment given April 29]

The Monopolies and Mergers Commission had asked property in deciding to disclose to a company being acquired the details of the bidder's financing plans which had been submitted to it. Mr Justice Mann held in the Queen's Bench Division.

His Lordship dismissed an application by Elders Ltd for judicial review of the decision by the commission to disclose to representatives of Allied-Lyons plc the contents of Chapter 7 of Elders' submission to the commission made in the course of an investigation by the commission pursuant to the Fair Trading Act 1973 following upon a merger reference made to the commission on behalf of the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry under the Act.

Chapter 7 contained details of new financing arrangements in relation to Elders' revised bid, including how the renewed bid would be financed, an indication of the final bid and details of how the initial bank loan would be refinanced on a longer term basis.

Mr Robert Alexander, QC, Mr David Oliver, QC and Mr Mark Howard for Elders, Mr Mark Littman, QC, Mr John Mummery and Mr Adrian Hughes for the commission, Mr John Swift, QC and Mr Stephen Richards for Allied-Lyons plc.

MR JUSTICE MANN said that under sections 69(1)(b) and 75(2) and (4)(c) of the 1973 Act the commission must investigate and report upon the question whether the prospective results of the arrangements in contemplation would, if those arrangements had been made and the results occurred before the date of the reference, give rise to a situation which "creates or may be expected to create against the public interest".

Those considerations of fairness arose in the course of a statutory investigation as to whether the acquisition or was in the public interest.

It was plain from what his Lordship heard in camera that the commission was of the view that it could not perform its investigative function without knowing Allied's views upon the consequences for the business of the arrangement in chapter 7. That view was not attacked as irrational.

The commission considered whether its objective could be achieved and the detriment Elders might suffer be avoided by means of a formulation of questions to Allied. The commission had concluded that its objective could not be so achieved.

The commission was correct in subordinating a perceived detriment to its judgment of how best to perform its statutory functions. There was no suggestion that the subordination was otherwise than in good faith.

Turning to the argument founded on section 133, the question was whether the exception in subsection (2)(a) applied. That provided that the restriction on disclosure of information in subsection (1) did not apply to any disclosure of information which was made "for the purpose of facilitating the performance of any functions of the commission".

The exception was not drawn as "for facilitating" but as "for the purpose of facilitating". The former form would require an objective examination of whether disclosure did or did not facilitate. The latter form involved an inquiry as to what the commission had in mind.

The commission's intention was to facilitate the performance of its functions. It was not suggested that the intention was either irrational or formulated in bad faith.

It would be unfortunate if the commission were to be put in peril of criticism in objectivity by the court during the course of discharging the difficult functions put upon it by the Act.

Solicitors: Freshfields; Treasury Solicitor; Ashurst Morris Crisp & Co.

## Proving false statement in perjury

*Regina v Rider*  
Before Lord Justice Mustill, Mr Justice Hodgson and Mr Justice Wood  
[Judgment given April 25]

In an action for perjury where the prosecution set out to prove that a statement was untrue. Thus, in the instant case, the prosecution set out to prove that the statement was untrue. Thus, in the instant case, the prosecution set out to prove that the statement was untrue.

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Informal enquiries to Professor Roger Mansfield, Head of Department, at Cardiff (0222) 37200.  
Further particulars and application form (closing date 31st May, 1986) from: Staffing Officer, UNIST, PO Box 66, Cardiff CF1 3SA. Telephone Cardiff (0222) 42996 ext 2212 (please quote reference 0/30).

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**LPI-1-86** Equipment supply and construction of a generating station with 4 diesel units of 5 MW each.

**LPI-2-86** Equipment supply and construction of 3 electric substations with a total capacity of 25 MVA.

**LPI-3-86** Materials supply and construction of four transmission lines at 34.5 kv and 13.8 kv and to total length of 78 km.

**LPI-4-86** Equipment supply and construction of a port with a loading capacity of 3,600 metric tons per hour, on the Orinoco river at a site known as El Jibal, Distrito Cedeno, Estado Bolivar.

**LPI-5-86** Construction of various industrial buildings with a total area of about 12,000 square metres.

**LPI-6-86** Equipment supply and construction of a 4.1 km, down hill conveyor belt system with a capacity of 1,600 metric tons per hour.

**LPI-7-86** Equipment supply and construction of mineral handling facilities capable of stockpiling and loading bauxite in railway wagons at the rate of 3,600 metric tons per hour.

**LPI-8-86** Construction of offices, workshops, and storage and industrial services facilities at the mining site.

**BAUXIVEN** has received a loan from the Interamerican Development Bank (IDB) to partially finance the project, and this invitation is limited to firms legally incorporated in countries that are members of that Bank.

Starting May 9th, 1986, project and bid general information and prequalification terms of reference will be made available for a fee of Ba. 1,000 (one thousand Bolivares) payable in cash or by cashier's cheque, to firms which request them in writing.

**BAUXIVEN** will receive the prequalification applications in a public act according to the following schedule:

LPI-1-86	June 17	10 am.
LPI-2-86	June 16	10 am.
LPI-3-86	June 16	03 pm.
LPI-4-86	June 23	10 am.
LPI-5-86	June 23	10 am.
LPI-6-86	June 23	03 pm.
LPI-7-86	June 24	10 am.
LPI-8-86	June 09	03 pm.

Delivery of information and terms of reference, and receipt of applications will take place at the offices of **BAUXIVEN** located in the 4th floor of Edificio General, Avenida la Estancia, Chuao, Caracas.

**Error in committal**

Magistrates' Courts Rules (SI 1981 No 552 (1)) which provided that "... the court shall give the accused an opportunity to give evidence himself and to call witnesses" should be read conjunctively and that the defendant could only call evidence if giving evidence himself.

That was what was clear by reference to rule 6(2). The fundamental right of an accused not to give evidence but to call witnesses on his behalf was not in any way inhibited. Rule 7(10) had to be read in conjunction with rule 6(2).

**LORD JUSTICE GLIDEWELL** said that the justices took the view that rule 7(10) of the



## LA CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

## TEMPORARIES WITH SECRETARIAL AND WP SKILLS

We need you. You need us!

We DON'T offer holiday pay (with strings attached).

We DO offer:

- \* Top rates to match your skills
- \* Regular assignments
- \* Professional advice and support
- \* Understanding

Come and make friends. Call us. Tell us about you and your needs. We will tell you about us and how we can do each other a power of good!

West End 01-499 0892 City 01-606 1611 Knightsbridge 01-589 4422

Senior Secretaries

## MERCHANT BANK P.A. TO M.D. c.£12,000 plus mortgage subsidy

This is a position requiring intelligence and presence, as P.A./Secretary to the Managing Director of a well respected merchant bank in EC3 you will organise and prioritise his demanding schedule. Your savoir faire and City experience will be essential when dealing with top people in the financial community. Skills of 100/60. Age 25-35.

Telephone: 01-606 1611

Senior Secretaries

## To college leavers in the dark-

Senior Secretaries will show you the light.

A boss-secretary team, as in every successful partnership, needs to be carefully matched by experts, especially for you in your first job. That is why we, at Senior Secretaries, would never dream of sending you to an interview without having first met you and taken stock both of your individual personality and your particular needs. Since we also visit the majority of our clients for these reasons we manage to keep round pegs well away from square holes. If you are well educated, intelligent, have good speeds and want the right job that is right for you - we are the only people you need to know.

For a Capital Career, Contact the Capital People

West End 01-499 0892 City 01-606 1611 Knightsbridge 01-589 4422

Senior Secretaries

## PROFESSIONALISM that's what secretarial work at Samuel Montagu is all about

As you would imagine with all the changes currently taking place in the City the pace here is fast and that's why teamwork is so important.

We now have an opportunity for a well educated professional secretary who is keen to be part of this environment and ready to take on wide-ranging personal responsibilities.

We'll expect you to have up to 2 years' secretarial experience - including the use of shorthand to a good standard - and

excellent administrative skills. Word processing skills are useful, however we will cross-train you on our NBI word processing system.

The 'City' package will include salary up to £8,800, mortgage subsidy, season ticket loan scheme, 4 weeks' holiday and BUPA.

Please send full CV to: Amanda Lawton, Samuel Montagu & Co Limited, 114 Old Broad Street, London EC4P 2HY. Tel: 01-588 6464.



SAMUEL MONTAGU

## About to complete a college secretarial course and looking for that all important first post?

## Get in Touche

Enthusiasm and self motivation will overcome lack of practical experience for secretarial opportunities currently being created within this large, well established international firm of Chartered Accountants based in modern City offices.

We are offering positions which will not only provide in-house training, consolidate newly acquired secretarial skills and enhance basic word processing knowledge, but also allow scope for development within a young, fast moving environment.

Competitive commensurate salary in return for high standard of education and speeds of 90/50 wpm.

In addition to excellent working conditions (including Gymnasium and Club Room) we offer four weeks holiday and season ticket loan.

Please apply in writing with full details to Susan Brand at the address below.

## Touche Ross The Business Partners

Hill House, 1 Little New Street, London EC4A 3TR. Telephone: 01-353 8011.

## BILINGUAL SECRETARIES

We would be interested to hear from bilingual secretaries seeking new and challenging positions and in particular from candidates interested in the following vacancies:

ENGLISH/FRENCH £12,000 A secretary to the General Manager is sought by a major international bank. The ideal candidate should possess excellent secretarial skills including French shorthand.

ENGLISH/GERMAN £10,000+ A City based international bank wishes to recruit a senior secretary with fluent German and shorthand in both English and German. An excellent position for a candidate seeking involvement and responsibility.

ENGLISH/GERMAN/FRENCH £10,000 We are currently handling three vacancies for trilingual secretaries with City based banks. Excellent secretarial and linguistic skills are imperative and foreign shorthand or a knowledge of Italian would be an additional advantage.

ENGLISH/ITALIAN £8,500 A secretary, aged 20-25, is sought by a major Italian bank in the City. The candidate should have about 2 years' experience and good secretarial skills as well as excellent spoken and written Italian.

Please contact:-

Alison McGowan, Jonathan Wren International Ltd, Bilingual Secretarial Division, 170 Bishopsgate, LONDON EC2M 4LX. Tel: (01) 638 1268.

Jonathan Wren International Ltd

## LEGAL ASSISTANT SECRETARY

Polygram is involved in records, tapes, compact discs and videos with Polygram International Popular Music Division dealing with repertoire throughout the world.

One of the Legal and Business Affairs Managers within this new Division needs an Assistant to act as more than just his Secretary as, in addition to providing a full secretarial service, your duties will comprise:

- breaking down and summarising contracts for storage on the word processor;
- using the above information to check and clear option periods on contracts; and
- dealing with all clearance procedures, eg. clearing of repertoire for inclusion on compilation records, tapes, compact discs and videos world-wide.

Candidates should have worked in Entertainment law, be able to read and understand a contract; be an excellent organiser with an analytical approach; be able to communicate effectively at all levels throughout the world; possess good skills, plenty of common sense and initiative.

In addition to a competitive salary, we offer annual bonus, LVs, free product and 25 days annual holiday.

Write enclosing CV and daytime telephone number to: Joy Hamlyn, Personnel Officer, Polygram International Limited, 45 Berkeley Square, London W1X 5DB.

polyGram

## THE PROFESSIONAL APPROACH with OUR TEMPORARY TEAM £6.20 p.h.

Our busy team of professional temporary secretaries are always in demand, and it has established an excellent reputation over the years. If you are a first class, senior level secretary with speeds of 100/60, 2 years Director level experience in central London, and proficient word processing skills, we can offer you an interesting variety of temporary secretarial assignments and the best rates in London. Our skilled temps are all paid the same rates and are frequently offered the opportunity of stepping into a permanent position. If you would like to temp at the level you deserve and be positively appreciated, please telephone for an appointment or a fact-sheet.

01-434 4512 (West End) 01-588 3535 (City)

Crone Corkill

Recruitment Consultants

## TEMPORARIES

W.P. Operators, Shorthand Secretaries, Audio Secretaries and Copy Typists.

We need temporary help now, to keep pace with the demands of 1986.

You can find your ideal permanent job and be paid whilst looking.

To hear our competitive rates, call

Judi Hutton

or Lucy Arnold

01-625 8863

HODGE RECRUITMENT

## DRAKE PERSONNEL

PA OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR £10,000 PLUS GOOD PERKS

We more than a PA at our computer division of a famous electronics company. Your boss will have a lot of responsibility to you as he spends most of his time away from the office. He will need a PA who is able to accept responsibility for completely controlling the business life of a dynamic and very successful trading organisation, and keep him fully aware of the current state of affairs. The ability to compose business correspondence in French will be a distinct advantage. This is a fast moving and refreshingly vigorous environment based in superb new offices in the West End.

For detailed information please contact

01-491 1868

## Has anyone recognised your potential lately?

- Proven secretarial and wp skills.
- Available immediately/working notice.
- Commercial experience.
- Pulse and personality.

If this sounds like you, we'd like to tell you exactly what we can offer. First class assignments, excellent rates and the opportunity to convert a temporary position into a permanent one, together with the

added benefits of the MacBlain Nash Privilege Card & Club.

With MacBlain Nash your career will go from strength to strength. Contact Victoria Martin on 01-439 0601.

MacBlain Temporary Secretaries

Today's best booking.

PA Sec. req'd by International Co. in City. Year to perm - once £32,000. Etc. working conditions.

## Cloth of Gold £7,500

Exquisite fabrics, bold concepts, unrestrained opulence - our clients operate in rarefied circles, creating breathtaking interiors for the mega-rich of the globe. They now seek a college leaver/junior secretary to join their small, hard-working yet very friendly team. Spoken French is essential, Italian advantageous. Flexibility, adaptability and confident typing skills are also important. Age 19-23. Please telephone 01-493 5787.

Gordon Yates Ltd, 35 Old Bond Street, London W1 (Recruitment Consultants)

## DIRECTOR'S SECRETARY c.£10,000. W1

We are a well established, successful recruitment and search consultancy with a team of nine people, based in the West End. We operate in a totally open plan office.

The Secretary will support two Directors who work on separate assignments. The job will involve lots of typing, contact with clients and candidates, and administration. It is a very varied and interesting role, and the nature of the work is constantly changing. We are looking for a self-starter capable of taking initiative, educated to at least 'A' Levels, ideally with a good knowledge of industry in the UK, who can work with a variety of people. Quick and accurate audio typing ability on a word processor is essential.

If you are interested, please ring me, Christopher West, Director, Courtney Stewart International, on 01-491 4014, or send in a CV.

## P.R. £9,000

A well known P.R. agency in the West End is looking for a young, fun secretary to work in their design and consumer department. Audio and shorthand required, and an ability to deal with a hectic environment. Age 20. Speeds 80/60.

## INTERIOR DESIGN £9,500

Our clients are looking for a capable and very organised secretary to run a small section of the company. Again, a very young atmosphere and lots of hard work. Beautiful offices. Age 22. Speeds 90/60.

We are also looking for college leavers with accurate typing to start at the beginning of the summer.

TM International Ltd, Recruitment Consultants, 50 Hare Crescent SW1. Tel: 01-491 1868

TM

## A Time to Temp

What do you look for from temporary work? High rewards, certainly - but more besides? The question is valid, because in today's market, you do have a choice. Our own temporaries form an exclusive, high calibre team: our clientele amongst the most prestigious in London. With good skills, quite frankly, you can make good money anywhere. But if you want the best, in every sense, then give me a call. Sara Dyson, on 01-493 5787.

Gordon Yates Ltd, 35 Old Bond Street, London W1 (Recruitment Consultants)

## PARIS c.£10,000

Paris awaits you if your French is fluent and if you have English secretarial skills 100/60 and French shorthand of 70 wpm. This English company, located close to the Champs Elysees needs a competent secretary who can start as soon as possible. Salary negotiable dependent upon age and experience. Interviews in London or Paris.

174 New Bond St. W1. International Secretaries, Tel: 01-491 1700

## BANKING ON YOUR GERMAN

The Deputy General Manager of an international bank when he is in the City needs a PA who is fluent in German and English. If you are aged 25+, have previous banking experience and are flexible, this is a job which will give you the best of both worlds: working as part of a team yet having the independence of your own office. Salary c.£9,000 plus bank pension/savings.

We have other banking opportunities for German speakers at a range of excellent salaries.

174 New Bond St. W1. International Secretaries, Tel: 01-491 1700

## SWITZERLAND The BANK FOR INTERNATIONAL SETTLEMENTS, an international institution in Basle, seeks a fully-trained SECRETARY/SHORTHAND TYPIST FOR ITS GENERAL SECRETARIAT

Candidates, who should be aged between 20 and 25 and have English as their mother tongue, should have a good knowledge of French and German.

The Bank offers an attractive salary and excellent working conditions in an international atmosphere.

Interested applicants are invited to write to the:-

PERSONNEL SECTION, BANK FOR INTERNATIONAL SETTLEMENTS, 4002 BASLE, SWITZERLAND.

Enclosing a curriculum vitae, reference and a photograph.

Telephone Mrs Webber 01-731 4448

\*\*\*\*\*

## ESTATE AGENTS

Require an experienced secretary with good secretarial skills, WP experience (Olivetti ETV 300). Excellent telephone manner, personality and presentation to help in their Fulham office. Salary negotiable.

Telephone Mrs Webber 01-731 4448

\*\*\*\*\*

## PA SEC

Close to City, near to the City, need a PA who is fluent in German and English. If you are aged 25+, have previous banking experience and are flexible, this is a job which will give you the best of both worlds: working as part of a team yet having the independence of your own office. Salary c.£9,000 plus bank pension/savings.

174 New Bond St. W1. International Secretaries, Tel: 01-491 1700

## SEC/ASSISTANT

Small property co. W1, good knowledge of WP an advantage. £8,000.

01-377 6433

Word Associates

## OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR

wanted for small, busy consultancy in WC1. Total responsibility for office management, including supervision of assistant secretary. Organising ability, good telephone manner, discretion and accurate typing (audio/copy) all important. Knowledge of WP/Office Systems an advantage.

Age 24+, c.£8,500 + profit share. Please write, sending CV or requesting job description, to:-

AGC CONSULTANTS LTD, 26/28 BEDFORD ROW, LONDON WC1R 4HF.

## PA FOR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

A well organised self-motivated person with initiative required as PA/secretary to young dynamic director of investment and mining company based in the City. This position involves administration of both business and personal affairs. Requirements are commitment, diplomacy and ability to deal with people of all levels. Word processing and shorthand skills essential. Excellent presentation required. Age immaterial. Salary up to £12,000 + excellent benefits. Please contact Sally McGowan-Scanlon, Consolidated Concord Ltd, 01-588 4217.

## AUDIO SECRETARY MAYFAIR ESTATE AGENTS

Require young and efficient Secretary for their busy residential department. Accurate typing essential and word processing an advantage. Salary dependent on age and experience. Excellent fringe benefits.

Tel 01-629 8151

NO AGENCIES

## OFFICE MANAGER/PA

Architects W1, typing and basic bookkeeping. Salary c.£8,000.

01-377 6433

Word Associates

## SENIOR SECRETARY/PA

To MD and General Manager of international consulting company. Good salary + benefits. Close to Victoria Station. Please ring Mrs Petch on: 01 834 0292

01 834 0292

Word Associates

Word Associates



# LA CREME DE LA CREME

## Home Secretary, no. City secretaries, yes.

Ask **ALFRED MARKS**

### Secretary/PA Provide Professional Support in Executive Recruitment

Enter the developing world of executive recruitment as the Secretary/PA to two consultants in our London head office. They undertake search and selection assignments at the highest level for banking and securities houses in the City of London.

As part of a small and friendly team of secretaries in pleasant offices, you will provide the consultants with full secretarial and administrative support, typing a high volume of varied reports, co-ordinating advertising, arranging meetings, dealing with correspondence etc.

In complete confidence, please write with cv to Helena Watson of Cripps, Sears and Associates Limited, Personnel Management Consultants, 88/89 High Holborn, London WC1V 6LZ. Telephone 01-404 5701. Early replies will be appreciated as we hope to hold the first stage of the selection process on Friday, 9th May 1986.

**Cripps, Sears**

### A CUT ABOVE!

**INTERNATIONAL!** to £10,000+  
Flexibility under pressure at Director-level for the SENIOR SECRETARY with excellent formal and 'fort-holding' skills. Initiative and an organising eye for detail essential. Excellent Mayfair conditions and Bonus.

**SOCIAL!** £9,000  
Superb MD's PA opportunity for the up-market, organised individual with sound knowledge of French No Shorthand but excellent inter-personal skills for both business and social matters with constant liaison with Paris.

**SCIENCE!** to £8,200  
Prestigious environment for the numerate young SECRETARY with a keen scientific interest, an excellent telephone manner and the ability to work under pressure.

**COURSES!** to £7,500  
Young, on-the-ball personality for a great post where a high proportion of the job will be organising Courses. Some travel to course Venues will be involved.

**TEMPS! TEMPS!**  
High calibre Temp assignments too either short or long term to suit your needs at the highest rates in Town for skilled Secretarial & WP professionals!

Full details from:  
19/23 Oxford Street, W1 Tel: 01-497 9030  
181/183 Cannon Street, EC4 Tel: 01-628 8316

**Challoners**

### Black Gold

Our client, an impressive international Company, offers an unparalleled opportunity to an ambitious Secretary, aged mid-late 20's, presently working at Manager/Director level.

Working for the Deputy Chairman, you will benefit from the extensive training provided by the Company, which will enable you to rise immediately to a 5 figure salary.

The atmosphere is dynamic, therefore impressive communication/PR skills are essential to liaise with clients and organise functions within the international petrochemical industry. The PA content is high, but good skills are essential.

To discuss this considerable opportunity and the salary telephone: 01-438 8477.

**MacBlain**

**NASH-CITY**

PA/Secretarial Recruitment Consultants

**DRAKE PERSONNEL**

**CONFERENCES AND ADVERTISING**

£3,500 (Languages an asset)

The fastest onset of the international company calls your entrepreneurial personal

by Easy setting-up

international conferences and

using the project through

from start to finish. You

very willing to deadlines

and respond to the dynamic

and pressure of your company

and colleagues.

With typing 2000 and a

strong personality call

Angela Woodcock on 01

521 0656

**The Drake People**

**THE DRAKE INTERNATIONAL GROUP**

**Banking P.A.**

£13,000 + Benefits

The MD of this major banking

corporation - City-based - is

looking for an exceptional

graduate P.A. You will need to

have worked at a comparable

level for several years in order

to have the expertise, knowl-

edge and confidence for this

top appointment. Preferred age

30-40 with skills of 120/60

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# LA CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

## Accounts Administrator Broaden Your Role

Help maintain the smooth running of our accounts and administration systems. We are an expanding and active business management consultancy and our clients are growing rapidly. You will be responsible for a challenging and varied role.

As Accounts and Administration Assistant reporting directly to the Company Secretary, you will handle a demanding level of day-to-day tasks, relating mainly to accounts and administration, but with some general administrative duties. We will train you to use our Sirius computer and software systems. You will become involved in all aspects of the administration of this growing company and, ideally, will be able to develop our computer systems further.

With book-keeping and typing skills, you are looking for the challenge of moving into a busy office where you can provide essential support for the company's activities. You are over 22, educated to at least 'A' level standard, are flexible and enjoy working under pressure.

A competitive salary will be offered to the successful applicant, together with BUPA membership, permanent health insurance and free lunches. To apply please write to: Cripps, Sears & Associates Ltd, Burne House, 83-85 High Holborn, London WC1V 6LE. Telephone: 01-404 5701. Early replies will be appreciated as we hope to hold the first stage of the selection process on Friday, 8th May 1986.

**Cripps, Sears**

## Database Administrator

£9,000+ and benefits

We are a City based International firm of Chartered Accountants and our busy Tax Department requires an enthusiastic and adaptable person who can take over the administration of our client database which is maintained on our IBM 5520 system. This position would involve data input, files processing and the preparation of system reports.

Additional duties would include the supervision of printing facilities, the archiving and retrieval of documents and assisting with upgrades to software. You should be aged 21+, educated to 'A' level standard and have 2 years relevant experience. Keyboard skills are essential.

Please apply enclosing full CV to Julia Dabney, Divisional Personnel Officer at the address below.

DeLoitte Haskins + Sells  
PO Box 207  
128 Queen Victoria Street  
London EC4P 4JX

**DeLoitte Haskins + Sells**  
PROFIT FROM OUR SKILLS

## CAPITAL RADIO 194

London's favourite radio station has two vacancies for senior secretaries. Both positions require good shorthand and typing skills, together with a good telephone manner and a sense of responsibility, and the successful applicants must work well under pressure.

Sales/Marketing - To assist the sales controllers and marketing manager; word processor experience would be an advantage.

Engineering - To assist the chief engineer and deputy chief engineer and from time to time to help in other departments.

Salary circa £8,000 per annum.

Applications to be made in writing, including full CV and sse, to the head of personnel, Capital Radio Limited, PO Box 958, Euston Road, London NW1 3GR. Applications to be received no later than Friday 6th June 1986.

## Secretary to Managing Director

Leslie & Godwin Limited, a leading firm of Lloyd's Insurance Brokers are looking to appoint a Secretary/PA to the Managing Director of the Aviation Company.

Apart from first class shorthand, typing and word processing experience, the successful applicant will need excellent administrative skills and organisational ability, plus good social skills. Diplomacy and tact are essential in dealing with senior management and clients in the UK and Overseas.

Applicants should be 22+, well educated, of smart appearance and with previous experience at senior level.

An excellent salary with good benefits will be offered. Please write enclosing Curriculum Vitae to: Hana Smouha, Personnel Manager, Leslie & Godwin Limited, PO Box 219, 6 Braham Street, London, E1.

**Leslie & Godwin Ltd.**

## THE WORK SHOP

### Tasteful Tempting...

No hassles. No let-downs. Just plain, simple, high grade tempting.

A tasteful package of top jobs, elite rates and thoroughly professional service.

If you have sound skills and experience, you should be talking to 'The Work Shop'.

Telephone Sue Cooke on 01-409 1232.

Recruitment Consultants

## ADVERTISING CHALLENGE

£8,000 Neg

We are a large international Advertising Agency in St James Square and are seeking an intelligent, flexible and enthusiastic person to work with one of our senior Account Planning Directors. Ideal applicant would have excellent secretarial skills, good admin experience and the ability to liaise with our staff at all levels. If you would enjoy working as one of the team and are looking for variety, excitement and increasing responsibility within the frame work of a busy and stimulating Advertising Agency, this could be the opportunity you're seeking. We have four weeks late 871 and 882 schemes and a subsidised food and wine bar. For further details, please Tel Mrs Helen Broad, DMBB, 2 St James Square, London SW1 8JH 01-409 3422.

## Executive Search

Simpson Crowden Consultants is one of the faster growing but established firms in the field of Executive Search and Selection. Having recently centred our operation in the West End, we wish to appoint a PA in his or her 30's, to work with our MD and one of the senior consultants.

The position involves extensive telephone and face-to-face contact with senior management in a range of UK industries, particularly automotive, engineering and distribution. Research, investigation and sensible confidential discussion with clients and candidates will comprise the major part of this role.

Good secretarial skills, telephone manner and administrative ability are pre-requisites, but in addition our objectives and standards demand the investment of vast amounts of energy and time. Some UK travel will be involved.

Rewards will be good and include a success related bonus, flexible hours, 4 weeks' holiday and facility to progress within a growing business sector. Salary indicator: 5 figures.

Contact Helena Reitz for an application form quoting reference SS-1.

## Simpson Crowden CONSULTANTS

Specialists in Executive Search & Selection  
97-99 Park Street, London W1Y 3HA. Telephone 01-629 5409

## Group Secretary

£9,000

The Technical Change Centre is a leading provider of secretarial services into groups of 25-50 secretaries. We are currently seeking a Programme Director. The successful candidate will be responsible for the recruitment, training and development of secretaries and will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the centre. The successful candidate will be responsible for the recruitment, training and development of secretaries and will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the centre.

Applicants should be in the 25-35 age group and have a good professional skills in audio, typing, word processing and secretarial skills. Benefits include 5 weeks leave, Season Ticket, car, medical insurance and a pension scheme. If you are interested please send your CV to: THE TECHNICAL CHANGE CENTRE, 114 DORSET ROAD, LONDON E16 3JH.

**THE TECHNICAL CHANGE CENTRE**  
114 DORSET ROAD, LONDON E16 3JH



## SPEYHAWK LAND AND ESTATE LIMITED

### CHAIRMAN'S PA/SECRETARY

Principally based in Mayfair but occasionally required to travel and work with the Chairman in Old Waltham, Middlesex, this very interesting position involves planning of liaison with professionals and advisors, therefore, a pleasant outgoing personality is essential. Together with accurate well presented typing and shorthand you will need to be good organiser and able to deal with people courteously and efficiently on the telephone. This vacancy is for someone with plenty of initiative who can assess priorities and take control of hectic diary.

Please apply in writing, given full career details to date with current salary to:

Judy Dunstan  
Speyhawk Land and Estate Limited  
Osprey House  
Lower Square  
Old Islington  
Middlesex TW7 6BN

## THE BEST OF BANKS!

25-30? £11,500

You need both shorthand and Wang exp as personal secretary to the director in charge of the dealing room of an international bank in EC2. Free lunch, mortgage subsidy etc.

### GEORGIAN HOUSE £10,000

As secretary to the Chief executive of an investment bank in W1 you will have your own office and a hectic job making travel arrangements, greeting visitors and short-hand typing correspondence. Age 30-40.

### START-UP to £15,000

An outstanding opportunity for a PA with shorthand typing skills, banking experience + a strong admin background including book-keeping, to join a new merchant-bank. Call Jackie Scholander on 377 8600.

### 23-30? to £10,000

You enjoy word processing, have at least rusty shorthand and preferably banking exp to work for the VP of a corporate finance department of an American firm. A bird's-eye view of the City from their beautiful new offices.

City 377 8600 West End 439 7001

## Secretaries Plus

The Secretarial Consultants

### PA TO DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL

Confederation of British Industry.

Previous experience working to Senior Executive level essential. Must be able to work on own initiative and able to deal with senior people from Industry, Commerce and the Civil Service. Candidates must have excellent secretarial and presentational skills.

Salary circa £9,000.

Please phone Sue Latimer on:

379 7400, extension 2108.

## RECEPTIONIST

£5,000

### PUBLIC PROPERTY COMPANY

This is a varied/interesting position for an experienced receptionist with typing ability. Must have outgoing personality and sense of humour to work in our prestigious new City offices.

Age: 23-35

Tel: Linda Gratton 01-622 6068

(No agencies)

## DUE TO RETIREMENT

Fulltime secretary required to work on a Berkshire Country Estate. Excellent shorthand and typing speed, knowledge of book-keeping and computer. Confidentiality essential and must be a driver. Preference given to someone with previous similar experience and aged 30-40.

Unfurnished centrally heated living accommodation with small walled garden provided, rent and rate free, though this is not suitable for children.

Please write giving full details to BOX C29.

WP OPERATOR/AUDIO SECRETARY

£8,000 - £8,500

A Partner of a firm of Chartered Surveyors in the West End requires an efficient Secretary. Must have good WP and Audio skills 20+.

Pleasant working conditions in relaxed atmosphere. Package includes BUPA, Bonus and 4 weeks holiday p.a. Telephone 438 4637.

(No agencies)

## WEST END ART GALLERY

Requires efficient and well organised Secretary/Receptionist for West End Art Gallery. Good skills essential minimum typing 60 wpm would suit intelligent college leaver with good educational background. Must have initiative, flexibility and the ability to handle a variety of duties independently. Please send full details to:

Anthony d'Offay

Gallery, 9 & 23 Dering St, London W.1

## FASHION £10,500

Large fashion retail company seeks a PA to help run the day-to-day business. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company and will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company.

City: 01-481 2345 WEST END: 01-938 2188

**abbatt**

PA/ADMIN £10,000

An excellent opportunity has arisen with this small but expanding professional Management Finance consultancy for a PA to the Managing Director. Must be able to handle a wide range of correspondence and be able to deal with clients in a professional manner. A great deal of top class contact. A great deal of top class contact. A great deal of top class contact.

City: 01-481 2345 WEST END: 01-938 2188

**abbatt**

PEOPLE PERSON £10,000

Cost calm, confident Secretary/PA to a busy professional. Must be able to handle a wide range of correspondence and be able to deal with clients in a professional manner. A great deal of top class contact. A great deal of top class contact. A great deal of top class contact.

City: 01-481 2345 WEST END: 01-938 2188

**abbatt**

RECEPTIONISTS! Take the Pepsi Challenge...

c. £8,500

This well-known and highly successful multinational company is looking for an experienced receptionist/secretary to work in the head office for Northern Europe, based in Knightsbridge. We are looking for someone with a bright, outgoing personality, excellent presentation and telephone manner, and the ability to cope with the pressures of a busy international switchboard.

Applicants should be aged 25+ and need good, accurate typing. Other duties include operating the telex and answering telephone enquiries, ordering couriers and dealing with the mail.

In addition to a competitive salary, dependent on age and experience, we are offering private medical cover, season ticket loan and membership of the Company's pension scheme.

If you are ready to take the challenge and would like the chance to work in a professional and stimulating environment, please write, enclosing C.V. with current salary and details of previous experience, to: Mrs Madeline Waring, Personnel Administrator, Pepsi-Cola (Northern Europe) Ltd., 12 Basil Street, London SW3 1AA.

City: 01-481 2345 WEST END: 01-938 2188

**abbatt**

FINANCE £9,800

Proven City Finance House needs a first class Secretary/PA to work for one of the senior managers. Must be able to handle a wide range of correspondence and be able to deal with clients in a professional manner. A great deal of top class contact. A great deal of top class contact. A great deal of top class contact.

City: 01-481 2345 WEST END: 01-938 2188

**abbatt**

ARE YOU THE CAT'S WHISKERS?

## SW1 ADVERTISING PA £12,000

Internationally acknowledged Agency Chairman would like an elegant, sparkling out of the ordinary PA to fulfil his needs (100/60).

SW1 PA/SEC £10,000 & £11,000+

We need two cool calm people to enjoy a pressured working environment in an expanding Executive Search Co. Applicants need 100/60 + WP exp. together with a sense of humour. Immediate start.

W1 SURVEYOR'S PA £10,500+

Opportunity for a self motivated PA with good presentation for Senior Partner who enjoys a busy and demanding environment. Top skills essential. Varied work load and the opportunity to meet clients. Age 23-35.

WE ARE ALWAYS LOOKING FOR TEMPORARIES TO JOIN OUR TEAM OF PROFESSIONAL TEMPS. YOU MUST HAVE 100/60 + WP. PREFER OLIVETTI ET351/IBM PC3100/IBM DISPLAYWRITER/ MULTIMATE & WORDSTAR. COME IN AND SEE US TODAY ON TELEPHONE SALLY OWENS ON VERTYAN CLARKE ON 01-235 8427, 4 PONT STREET, LONDON SW1.

**K NIGHTSBRIDGE SECRETARIES**

**Elizabeth Hunt**

STYLE AND GROOMING

£10,000

Join this well known organisation in the promotion of style and grooming, as secretary to their managing director. You'll enjoy constant contact with members of the public and a friendly informal atmosphere. 90/60 skills and Wordstar experience needed.

**TRAVEL AND TOURISM**

£8,500 neg

A leading firm of PR consultants seeks a young secretary to join their travel and leisure division. If you would enjoy a fast moving, young and informal atmosphere this is for you. A years experience and 50 wpm audio ability needed.

Elizabeth Hunt Recruitment Consultants  
2-3 Bedford Street London WC2 0240 3511

## 22-25 EXECUTIVE RECRUITMENT £9,500

Superb opportunity to get involved with Executive Recruitment. This job has a great deal of interest and responsibility, and it's essential that you're a good communicator. You'll be dealing with senior executives face to face and by telephone.

Specialists for the 18-25 year olds

The London representative office of this new Japanese Securities Company is looking for a secretary to help maintain smooth running of this presently one man office. No shorthand or audio but good typing essential.

Age is immaterial, although would probably suit mature person, so long as you have a helpful attitude and willingness to assist this Japanese gentleman by editing his correspondence and having a good, clear telephone manner as you will be required to deal with clients over the telephone.

Salary £8000 negotiable.

Please write with CV to:

THE TACHIBANA SECURITIES CO. LTD  
10 FINSBURY SQUARE  
LONDON EC2

## MAYDAY! MAYDAY! TEMPS

Calling all young enthusiastic temps, you will be greatly appreciated by our interesting and varied clients all over London. Using your initiative and skills of 80/100sh or audio, 50+ typ and good W.P., you will be paid excellent rates and have action packed days. Age 19-25.

Please call:

437 6032

**HOBSTONES**

## CAROLINE KING

FASHION £8,000

This prestigious Mayfair retailer needs a confident, well spoken young secretary for their Sales Manager. There will be an enormous variety of tasks ranging from international client contact to keeping an eye on their beautiful showroom and meeting VIPs. Skills 90/55.

**STOCK & SHARES £9,500**

Enjoy being at the centre of the action? Based on the stock market trading floor you'll be in one of the busiest, hottest places in London. Lots of high level meetings to organise (European language useful) and everything needs to be done yesterday so fast accurate speeds essential 90+/55+.

please telephone: 01-499 8070

46 Old Bond Street London W.1.

CAROLINE KING SECRETARIAL APPOINTMENTS

**RECRUITMENT CONSULTANT**

SALARY PACKAGE c. £15,000 p.a.

A professional approach and a minimum of 2 to 3 years successful interviewing experience could bring you this exceptional opportunity to join an established personnel consultancy based in the Aldwych.

As part of our planned expansion programme, we are seeking a further consultant to the secretarial division to introduce secretaries to clients in legal practices and in the world of commerce. A proven track record in placing permanent or temporary staff is required. Experience in running a busy temporary team would be highly desirable but not essential.

This position attracts an impressive remuneration package on achieving satisfactory results.

If you have the experience and determination to succeed, please call in strict confidence Mick Deane on 01 242 1281 or between 9.00 and 10.30 on 01 204 5818.

**Personnel Appointments**

95 Aldwych, London WC2B 4JF

**CONFERENCE SUPPORT**

c. £11,000

The MD of these well established conference organisers is looking for a PA to assist with the running of the company.

You will already have several years experience at senior level, be willing to take on more responsibility and be capable of working as part of a team in a highly motivated and professional environment.

Attention to detail and good administrative skills are essential as you will identify new market areas, organise budgets, appeals and sponsorship.

Skills: 100/65 Age: 30/45 WP experience essential.

WEST END OFFICE 629 9885

ANGELA MORTIMER

**COME IN AND SEE US TONIGHT**

Tonight we would like to invite you to come and see us in our City offices between 5 and 6.30 pm so that we can meet secretaries who find it difficult to visit us during office hours.

Fiona, our temps controller, would also very much like to meet you if you are interested in temping and have good word processing and secretarial skills.

Elizabeth Hunt Recruitment Consultants  
23 College Hill London EC4 0240 3551

## UNDERWRITING ASSISTANTS

Expanding worldwide insurance business requires well educated, efficient, energetic people with good secretarial skills and numeracy to work in a team. Languages and computer abilities are additional advantages but not essential. Good training provided age 22 plus.

Please provide c.v. and covering letter to:

BOX B23, The Times, P.O. Box 484, Virginia Street, London E1.

**ARE YOU A PEOPLE PERSON?**

Then this could be for you. Our business is people - placing them in executive positions in the clothing industry, to be precise.

Expansion has created the need for an additional senior secretary with good shorthand and typing skills, to become an integral part of our Executive Consultancy - provide all administrative support.

Age 25+ you will probably have had some personal, agency or fashion experience. Non-negotiable Salary to £10,500 p.a.

Contact Michael Seaton, Managing Consultant.

**HENSWEAR & WOMENWEAR AGENCY**

01-439 6038

200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345,























## BOXING

## By Clive White

## Real look forward to UEFA final

**LEICESTER** 0. Sheffield United 1; West Bromwich 1; Manchester United 5. Second division: Port Vale 2; York 1; Preston 0; Bolton 1.

**FOOTBALL COMBINATION:** Chelsea 3; Millwall 1; Norwich 3; Charlton 0.

**IRISH LEAGUE:** Coleraine 2; Glenshaw 2;

**At 33, Moorcroft knows his chances of being No 1 again are limited.**

## RUGBY UNION

**By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent**

our countries have announced teams for that event.

**FOR THE RECORD** | **TODAY'S**

[illegible]

**By Sri Kumar Sen, Boxing Correspondent**

<b>SQUASH RACKETS</b>	<b>Alan Gibson</b>
-----------------------	--------------------

**by Devoy**

the world squash through a carefully prepared campaign. Using 14 proxy votes from absent South African players, he ensured that the Men's Squash Players' Association (MSPA) reinstated South African tournaments in the mixed, ladies' and

A substantial majority had voted late last year, during the world championships in Egypt.

The South Africans have made it clear they are determined to win the sport on their own fronts, and their attempt to persuade Miss Devoy to visit their country may not have been a well-timed move. "I have seen the light of her career and she is considering retiring young), the officers will become increasingly dependent, according to the money talks, eventually, he said.

not one of your tall slips — only 5ft 4in — but, like Hendren, kept babbling on, unstartledly, and

## ENTERTAINMENT

**HALLS BREWERY NELLIEBEG LEAGUE:** Supermarine Division; Moriston v Abington Unit (£6-09); Supermarine v Shortland Hill (£8-09).

**NORTH-WEST COUNTRIES LEAGUE First Division:** Porthcawl v Gorseau.

**SOUTH-EAST COUNTRIES LEAGUE:** Millvale v Fulham (£6.0).

**CRICKET**

Britannic Assurance  
County Championship  
(I & II) over three matches)

**WEST-COUNTRY Derbyshire v Somerset,**  
**SOUTHAMPTON:** Hampshire v Glamorgan.  
**CANTERBURY Kent v Northamptonshire,**  
**OLD TRAFFORD:** Lancashire v Gloucestershire.

**THE OVAL:** Surrey v Nottinghamshire.  
Other matches:  
(11.20 to 6.30)  
**KEMNER'S:** Cambridge University v Hampshire.  
**PARKING:** Oxford University v Middlesex.

**SECOND XI CHAMPIONSHIP:** Folkestone Invictas v Lancaster; Hertford Athletic v Lancashire; Lancastrians v Middlesex; Leamington v Yorkshire v Warwickshire.

**BARNFOLK UNDER-25 CRICKET:** Ipswich vs Somerset v Wokingham.

**RUGBY UNION**

**FULHAM MATCHES:** Cardiff v Pontypool £7.15; Newport v Newbridge (7.0); Pontypool v Swansea Woods (7.0).  
Swansea Pool v Mossing.

**RUGBY LEAGUE**

**SECOND DIVISION:** Barrow v Sheffield Eagles; Batley v Runcorn Highfield; Burslem v Bromley; Huddersley v Wakefield Wolves; Rochdale v Doncaster Marston; Whitehaven v Doncaster.

**GAMES PLAYED WITHIN LAST SEVEN DAYS:** In six consecutive seasons he scored more than 3,000 runs, in 1901 more than 3,000. His 357 against Somerset in 1899 was in the second-highest score in first-class cricket. Raychard Common are on Southwark Common are

**ENTERTAINMENT**

**CINEMA**

**CANINE PLAZA 480 2443-093**  
**Cinema Town tale ABSE-**  
**LITTLE BEARS** The film at  
1.25, 3.45, 6.10, 8.40. Th.  
Bookings accepted.

**CHELSEA Cinema 361 5742**  
**Kings Road (Theatre town)**  
**Golden Era** The film at  
1.25, 4.30, 7.45, M-S-T  
TWO WEEK 3D  
THURS KINGS ROAD'S RAM (18),  
LONDON 40. 7.45. S-F-T  
Bookable for next week  
Viva.

**DURDON MATHEAT Durron 53**  
**480 5757 Film Cat 2447-7**  
**The 3rd 7200 Blue Feet**  
**Smith, Denholm Oliver, Just**  
**the Road to Rome** The  
**VENUE (Pm) Film at 1.30 rest**  
**Start 2.45 to 10.00. Book**  
**at 4.20 In advance or**  
**is 40 pmt day & 6.10 on Sat &**

**DURDON WEST END Shaftsbury**  
**Avenue 141 439 4805 Pat**  
**Cat 2418-7 Day Cab 240 7250**  
**Blue Feet** The film at  
**Sep. Peris daily at 2.15, 3.15, &**  
**8.10.**

## dent

and was looking forward to bringing the title back to Brimley after nine years. Conteh, who had been granted his second licence on Sunday, will be at Andries's corner to bolster

---

**looks back**

---

quite were. After his retirement he ran a bat shop at the College and was coach at Dulwich College. H.S. Altham gave this affectionate picture of "Who that has ever seen i forget that curious little fig

surmounted almost invariably by a somewhat faded shrunken chocolate cup, slow half-waddling gait

own account, a glimpse of  
elsewhere - unchronicled  
ment in cricketing history:  
afternoon last July, when  
Crawford's refusal to lead  
Surrey XI into the field again  
the Australians was the  
topic of conversation on  
about the Oval, a friend was  
into my shop to say 'How  
do.' My eyes were troubling  
and were seriously affecting  
work as coach at Dulwich  
College.

## Medical discovery

"Naturally sceptical, I had, however, decided to give it a try. Feeling that I had really derived immense benefit from it, I continued the treatment. Today I feel that I have, to a great extent, benefitted in my general health and command the strength to try it."

Well, there you are: the 1

behind the scorecards. But what has happened to Nuvire? Does it still produce its elixir in Norwich? If so, a supply should have been despatched to the West Indies.

## INMENTS

**LEICESTER SQUARE THEATRE**  
930 6262 (Erd)/930 7616 (24  
hour Accs./VISA/AmEx Book-  
ings) **ABSOLUTE BEGINNERS**  
(115) in Doty Sierco. Sep prog:  
Darty 12.55, 3.30, 6.10, 8.50  
All prog Bookable in Advance.

**MINERA KNIGHTSBRIDGE 235**  
4225. Jack Nicholson &  
Kathleen Turner. **PRIZZ'S**  
ROMAN

**ODEON BAYMARKET** 1930  
2738; NO SURRENDER 116L  
Sep. prog. Daily 215. 600

**8.40** All seats bookable in advance. Access and Visa telephone bookings welcome

**ODEON LEICESTER SQUARE**  
1930 611111 info 930 4250 / 4259 **RENO UNARMED AND DANGEROUS** (15). Sep prog Doors open Daily 1.45, 4.45, 8.00. All prog Bookable in Advance. Access and Visa phone bookings welcome. Credit Hot Line 839 1929, 24 hour service. £2.50 seats

**ODEON MARBLE ARCH 1723**  
2011: **ABSOLUTE BEGINNERS**  
115). Sep prog. Doors open 10a.

**SCREEN ON BAKER STREET**  
935 2772 (1) MY BEAUTIFUL  
LAINCROFT (15) 3.05. 5.00.  
7.05 9.10 (2) KISS OF THE  
SPIDER WOMAN (18) 3.30.  
6.10 & 8.40 Seals Bookable.

**SCREEN ON THE HILL** 4:35 3:56.  
Kurosawa's Oscar-winning

MAN (18), born 4 05. 7 40.  
Plus daily at 2.45 A.M. (the  
making of Ban)



## Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Dear and Peter Davalle

## BBC 1

**6.00** *Cee-eez* 10.55. Breakfast Time with Frank Bough and Selina Scott. Weather at 6.55, 7.25, 7.55, 8.25 and 8.55; regional news, weather and traffic at 6.57, 7.27, 7.57 and 8.27; national and international news at 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 and 9.00; sport at 7.20 and 8.20; the latest pop music charts at 7.52; a review of the morning newspapers at 8.37. Plus, Beverly Hills fashion tips; and Alison Mitchell's phone-in financial advice.

**9.20** *Cee-eez* 10.55. Gharib. Ghazala Amin talks to nurse Farida Azhar Khan, British woman in Vienna. Randa and a mother, Samira Mir, about preparing children for a stay in hospital. 10.30 *Play School*.

**10.50** *World Snooker*. David Ikin introduces coverage of quarter-final action. News After Noon with Richard Wainwright and Frances Corderie. Includes news headlines with subtitles 12.55. Regional news and weather.

**1.00** *Pebble Mill* at One. Magnus Magnusson, Josephine Beaman and Paul Cole join the frolics around the maypole and the Morris man who illustrates a number of English May Day customs. In addition, Michael Smith offers new ideas making the most of Britain's culinary heritage. 1.40 *Bertha*. (r)

**1.55** *Reading from Asatru*. The Insulup Sagas. EBF. Stakes (2.30). The Insulup Victoria Cup (3.05). The White Rose Stakes (3.40). 3.52 Regional news.

**3.55** *Up Our Street* (r) 4.00. Dogman and the Three Musketeers. Cartoon series 4.35. Take Two. The programmes under discussion this week are The Collectors and Hancock's Half Hour.

**5.00** *John Grieve's* 5.05. *Joey's Giants*. Part two of the five-episode serial about a former professional footballer coaching a youth team of no-hopers. (Cee-eez).

**5.35** *Birdwatch in Florida*. A repeat of Tony Soper's second report, first shown last night.

**6.00** *News with Nicholas Witchell* and Andrew Harvey. Weather.

**6.35** *Wogan*. Tonight's guests include Tom Hanks, Michael Douglas, and Jean Mir. Plus a song from Glen Campbell. 7.40 *Lame Ducks*. Comedy series about a man, kicked out of his home by his wife, who decides to become a hermit. But on the way to his exile he picks up a bunch of disparate followers. (r)

**8.10** *News*. J.P. and Sue Ellen are locked in a tug-of-war tussle over John Ross. (Cee-eez).

**9.00** *News with Julia Somerville* and John Humphrys. Weather.

**9.30** *Q.E.D.* Mark, His Sister and the Scientists. A documentary about Mark, confined to a wheelchair with an inherited disease, Duchenne's muscular dystrophy; his sister who may be a carrier with disastrous effects on any male children she may have; and the scientists who are racing to find a test to see if the sister is a carrier. (Cee-eez).

**10.00** *News*. Sportsman introduced by Steve Rider. Snooker; quarter-final action in the Embassy World Professional Championship; the Greyhound TV Trophy Final from Newcastle; and Football: Archie Macpherson assesses Scotland's chances in Mexico and recalls their earlier efforts to win the supreme prize.

**12.10** *Weather*.

## TV-AM

**6.15** *Good Morning Britain*, presented by Anne Diamond and Henry Kelly. Includes at 6.55: news; regional news, weather and traffic at 6.57, 7.27, 7.57 and 8.27; national and international news at 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 and 9.00; sport at 7.20 and 8.20; the latest pop music charts at 7.52; a review of the morning newspapers at 8.37. Plus, Beverly Hills fashion tips; and Alison Mitchell's phone-in financial advice.

**9.25** *Thames news headlines*. 9.30 *For School*: celebrations for Portugal's history in relation to the country's explorers, crafts and agriculture. 10.04 *Science*: simple switches used to pass messages. 10.25 *Cars*: veteran, vintage and modern. 10.33 *English*: The Protectors, a play by Cherry Potter. 11.00 *Middle English*: Episode one of a four-part series. 11.20 *Describing actions with adverbs*. For the hearing impaired. 11.40 *Chemistry*: experiment: molar mass by elevation of boiling point.

**11.55** *Open University*. 12.00 *Portland Bill*. Adventures of a lighthouse keeper. 12.10 *Our Backyard*. Games and tricks with water. 12.30 *Talking Person*. Judith Chalmers in conversation with fashion designer, Sandra Rhodes.

**1.00** *News at One with Leonard Parkin*. 1.20 *The Champions*. Secret agents' adventures. 1.30 *Football*. Grace Mulligan and her guest, Jo Stables, each prepare a nutritionally balanced meal. 1.40 *University Challenge*. University of Stirling. 3.25 *Thames news headlines*. 3.30 *Portland Bill*. A repeat of the programme shown at noon. 4.10 *The Blunders*. 4.15 *Basel's Joke Machine*. 4.20 *Popcorn*. The first of a new series of the pop quiz. With Gary Crowley. Level 42 and Bronski Beat. 4.55 *Readrunner*. Cartoon.

**5.00** *Bellamy's Bugle*. David Bellamy probes another programme in his conservation series. 5.15 *Silver Spoons*. American comedy series.

**5.45** *News with Carol Barnes*. 6.00 *Thames news*. 6.25 *Help! Viv Taylor* Gae with news of the Waltham Forest Victim Support Scheme.

**6.35** *Crossroads*. Adam and Jill have an argument. 6.50 *This Is Your Life*. Eamonn Andrews surprises another victim with a surprise. 7.30 *Constitution Street*. Ken is confronted by Peter Barlow. (Oracie).

**8.00** *Minder*. Another Bride. Another Groom. Arthur begins to supply the cars for his niece's wedding. But a last minute complication means that the vehicles are packed with pornography. (Oracie).

**9.00** *Hello Campers!* A documentary about 50 years of holiday camps. (See Choice).

**10.00** *News at Ten with Alastair Burnet and Pamela Armstrong*.

**10.30** *Midweek Sport Special*. Highlights from tonight's football games; and of tonight's world light heavyweight bout between the holder, J.S. Williams, and the British champion, Dennis Andrieu.

**12.00** *Mrs Amworth*. Is the sweet and charming Mrs Amworth really what she seems or is she responsible for the many deaths in her small town? (See Choice).

**12.25** *Night Thoughts*.

Julie Christie in *Fahrenheit 451*, on Channel 4, 10.00pm

## BBC 2

**6.55** *Open University*. Psychology - Happy Landings. Ends at 7.20. 9.00 *Cee-eez*. 9.30 *For School*. Science: Daylight on Two: Science for four- and five-year olds. 10.15 *Using CSE*. Maths at work. 10.30 *Statistics*. Distributions. 11.00 *The story of Chicken Licken*. 11.17 Part two of a five-episode adventure series in France. 11.30 *A problem for 10-12 year olds*. 11.40 *How widespread is the problem of under-age drinking?* 12.05 *Cee-eez*.

**12.30** *World Snooker*. David Ikin with further coverage of the Embassy World Professional Championship.

**1.43** *Daytime on Two*. A German language version of the programme on learning to sail in Austria, shown yesterday. 2.00 *World Snooker*. David Ikin with further coverage of the Embassy World Professional Championship.

**4.00** *A Plus 4*. Mavis Nicholson joins past and present members of the Tiller Girls' dancing troupe celebrating the centenary of their formation. In Brighton.

**4.30** *Countdown*. Yesterday's edition. 4.45 *World Snooker*. David Ikin with further coverage of the Embassy World Professional Championship.

**5.00** *Alma Vera* is introduced by a former professional footballer coaching a youth team of no-hopers. (Cee-eez).

**5.30** *On Sea and in the Air*. An animated film made by Dutch animator, Paul Dresser.

**5.55** *Mother and Son*. A comedy series about an elderly widow and her recently divorced son.

**6.30** *Flashback*. Films of the late Twenties and Thirties reinterpreted by the First World War. (r) (Oracie).

**7.00** *Channel Four news* with Peter Sissons and Alastair Smeaton. Includes a report on the European airlines set to start flying to the Far East.

**7.15** *World Snooker*. David Ikin with further coverage of the Embassy World Professional Championship.

**7.40** *Going to Pot*. Susan Hampshire and Geoff Hamilton demonstrate the best way of transforming seeds into a riot of colour. Mr Hamilton also visits Kew Gardens to receive specialist advice on raising exotic plants. (Cee-eez).

**8.10** *MOD: Paying the Piper*. In this fourth and final programme in the series looking behind the scenes in the Ministry of Defence, David Taylor examines the present state of the Ministry and asks if it is up to the job of defending the nation. (See Choice).

**9.00** *World Snooker*. David Ikin with further coverage of the Embassy World Professional Championship.

**10.00** *M.A.S.H.* Hawkeye and Trapper learn that Colonel Buzz Brightman is determined to make an heroic name for himself no matter how many men are killed in the process. How can they persuade the doctor to return to the front? (r) (Oracie).

**10.25** *Newsnight*. 11.10. 11.15 *A Hot Summer Night with the Stars*. Part two of a series of two programmes, the first of which was shown on Tuesday. The stars of the Pacific Amphitheatre, southern California, featuring Donna Summer.

**11.50** *Open University*. 12.15 *Newsnight*. Ends at 12.45.

## CHOICE

for the price of a week's pay. **6.00** *PAYING THE PIPER* (BBC2, 8.10pm) Up David Taylor's hard-hitting documentary series about a world wholly preoccupied with arms and the defence industry. (See Choice).

**6.30** *Best of the rest on TV* tonight: Charles Crichton's merry *Ealing Comedies* (BBC2, 6.00pm), which puts us in the mood for Friday's *Ealing Comedies* (BBC2, 6.00pm), which puts us in the mood for Friday's *Ealing Comedies* (BBC2, 6.00pm).

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## Radio 4

On long wave. VHF variations at end of Radio 4.

**5.55** Shipping. 6.00 News Briefing. 6.10 Farming. 6.20 News. 6.30 Today. 6.40 News. 6.50 News. 7.00 News. 7.10 News. 7.20 News. 7.30 News. 7.40 News. 7.50 News. 8.00 News. 8.10 News. 8.20 News. 8.30 News. 8.40 News. 8.50 News. 9.00 News. 9.10 News. 9.20 News. 9.30 News. 9.40 News. 9.50 News. 10.00 News. 10.10 News. 10.20 News. 10.30 News. 10.40 News. 10.50 News. 11.00 News. 11.10 News. 11.20 News. 11.30 News. 11.40 News. 11.50 News. 12.00 News. 12.10 News. 12.20 News. 12.30 News. 12.40 News. 12.50 News. 1.00 News. 1.10 News. 1.20 News. 1.30 News. 1.40 News. 1.50 News. 2.00 News. 2.10 News. 2.20 News. 2.30 News. 2.40 News. 2.50 News. 3.00 News. 3.10 News. 3.20 News. 3.30 News. 3.40 News. 3.50 News. 4.00 News. 4.10 News. 4.20 News. 4.30 News. 4.40 News. 4.50 News. 5.00 News. 5.10 News. 5.20 News. 5.30 News. 5.40 News. 5.50 News. 6.00 News. 6.10 News. 6.20 News. 6.30 News. 6.40 News. 6.50 News. 7.00 News. 7.10 News. 7.20 News. 7.30 News. 7.40 News. 7.50 News. 8.00 News. 8.10 News. 8.20 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## SPORT

# The pressure intensifies

West Ham United can make certain of at least third place in the first division by beating Ipswich Town at Upton Park tonight, thus completing four successive home wins in 10 days and keeping the pressure on the two teams in front of them, Liverpool and Everton. Their manager, John Lyall, said: "It's great that we are taking it all the way to the finish."

West Ham have only one worry after Monday's hard earned win over Manchester City - Wand, an ever present this season, finished the game with a slight groin strain. Lyall admits his players are tired after a long hard season "but so are all the other teams, and when you are winning you don't notice being tired," he said.

"We have already achieved the target we set ourselves this season of finishing higher than any West Ham side has ever done before in division one which is a great credit to the lads. Now we simply have to seek to win our remaining games and hope that Liverpool and Everton slip up. Manchester City made it hard for us. They were the third side of the last four we have beaten to use a sweeper, which is a mark of respect to us."

Stewart's first-half penalty separated the teams.

West Ham have beaten Ipswich away in both League and FA Cup this season, each time with an only goal scored by Cottee. Almost exactly a year ago another Cottee goal gave West Ham a 1-0 win at

Ipswich, which ended their relegation fears.

Ipswich, still needing three points from their last two matches to make certain of avoiding relegation, will have no inferiority complex about tonight's match. Their manager, Bobby Ferguson, said: "We are going there to win. It would be nice to get three points because it would prevent having a nail-biting finish at Sheffield Wednesday on Saturday." Ipswich have no fresh injury worries following their injury-time victory over Oxford United on Saturday. Everton's title hopes re-

## Northern Ireland's World Cup squad and other football Page 30

ceived a lift yesterday when Reid and Van den Hauwe were included in the party of 14 for the match at Oxford tonight. They have made good progress after being injured during Saturday's goalless draw with Nottingham Forest. Harper and Richardson are added to the squad.

Oxford's Northern Ireland forward, Billy Hamilton, is recalled to face Everton. Hamilton, who is included in Ireland's World Cup squad after being troubled all season with a knee injury, takes over from Charles, who suffered a recurrence of a groin strain against Ipswich.

The 3-2 defeat left Oxford in deep relegation trouble and their manager, Maurice Ev-

ans, has set of a target of seven points from the remaining three home games to stay in the first division. He said: "We were killed off by two diabolical decisions by referee Tony Holtbrook, which cost two goals after playing well enough to deserve a win and it will make the players more determined tomorrow. They know they cannot afford another defeat."

The League leaders, Liverpool, have an injury worry for tonight's visit to Leicester City. Johnston is suffering from a painful back which makes him a doubtful starter and he will have a late fitness test. Rush has also had treatment for a back injury but is likely to play.

The Liverpool player-manager, Kenny Dalglish, takes a squad of 15 with Walsh, Lee and McMahon added to the dozen who were on duty in Saturday's 5-0 defeat of Birmingham City.

Leicester's manager, Gordon Milne, says that tonight's match is as important as a cup final. The former England winger, Laurie Cunningham, is likely to play, as Leicester attempt to avoid relegation. Cunningham will probably take over from Lynex, who is suspended.

Smith is still doubtful. He has been under intensive treatment for 10 days for a knee injury and Milne said yesterday: "I am keeping my fingers crossed, but will not be able to say whether Smith will be in until the very last minute."

## Luton card plan to ban visiting fans

Luton Town yesterday unveiled their plans to ban spectators of visiting clubs from Kenilworth Road next season.

All supporters who want to watch Luton's games will first have to buy a membership card costing £1. The cards, incorporating a magnetic code, will have to be passed through a security scanner in a computer-controlled turnstile system.

The equipment is costing Luton £250,000 and David Evans, the club's chairman, said at a press conference that the scheme has the backing of the Home Office, the police, local councils and residents. Luton first considered banning away supporters after Millwall fans caused £25,000 worth of damage in and around the ground during a FA Cup tie last season.

They already ban visiting supporters from all seated areas and chief executive John Smith said that the club would ask the Football Association and the Football League to allow the ban to operate in cup-ties as well as League games. An existing FA rule

states that visiting clubs should be given 25 per cent of the capacity for cup-ties, but a request will be made at an FA meeting on May 13 to grant Luton exemption from that regulation.

Smith said that if the rule was not waived for Luton, they would decide whether to play FA and League Cup ties on opponents' or neutral grounds, or withdraw from the cup competitions. Under the computerized turnstile system, the turnstile will reject any card which is stolen or reported as being blacklisted by the club.

Luton hope to sell up to 30,000 cards to home supporters and believe that more local people will go to their first division matches once they know there cannot be trouble involving rival supporters. Those who buy the cards will also be asked to sign a promise of good behaviour.

Luton have an average of 1,000 visiting fans per month, despite a deliberate policy of charging high admission charges for them. The club says that by banning away supporters, its police bills can be reduced.

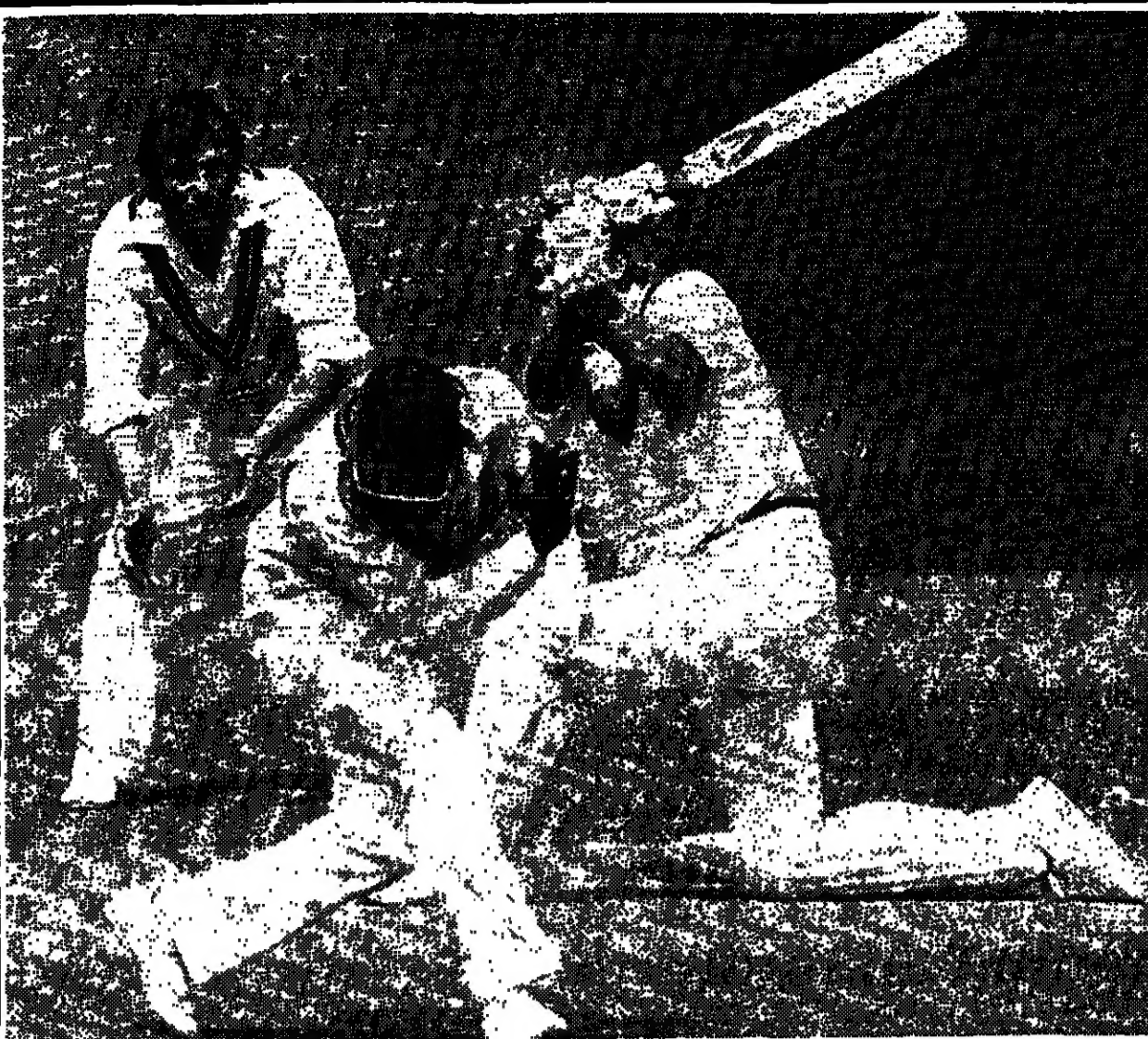
## Argentina going for a rout

Oslo (Reuters) - Argentina take on Norway today anxious to find their goal touch and quash suggestions that their manager, Carlos Bilardo, has assembled a defensive squad for next month's World Cup.

He has been criticised for switching the emphasis from the sweeping, attacking moves employed by his predecessor, Cesar Luis Menotti, which took Argentina to victory in the 1978 finals.

Bilardo wants his team to rout Norway in today's match at the Ullevaal Stadium to make amends for the recent 2-0 defeat by France and prove his side is no more defensive than in previous years. The Argentinians, with their captain Diego Maradona due in from Italy, rehearsed the full range of their attacking moves during a hard training session. They should have no problem disposing of the Norwegians, although the mixture of local amateurs and exiled professionals caused a major upset last year by beating World Cup holders Italy.

Argentina travel to Israel for another warm-up match



Safety first: Slack takes cover and Radley looks on as Roberts cuts loose at Lord's yesterday. (Photograph: Chris Cole)

## Middlesex fail to force home the advantage

By Richard Streeton

LORD'S: Middlesex (7pts) drew with Derbyshire (3).

Middlesex, whose close catching let them down, were unable to make Derbyshire follow on yesterday and from 12.30 onwards the match was allowed to drift to an unsatisfactory draw. A slow, docile pitch, and the loss of four hours' play on Saturday, combined to blunt the ambitions of both teams.

Derbyshire resumed needing a further 98 runs to avoid the follow-on. They had seven wickets in hand, including that of Miller, who had influenza and would only bat if necessary. In the first half hour Finney, the night watchman, was twice dropped in the slips off Williams before he reached double figures.

These mistakes dashed any hope Middlesex held of breaking through. The score was 92 before Cowans bowled Finney, but Morris continued to drive stylishly and hit seven

fours before Daniel bowled him with a yorker.

Roberts, however, was firm as a rock and Newman, whose batting improved so much last year, also looked sound when Edmonds and Emburey bowled. These two were still together at lunch when 67 overs remained and the innings lasted another 55 minutes after the interval.

The outstanding catches were taken by Emburey at slip and Edmonds in the gully, to dismiss Newman and Roberts. Holding brought Derbyshire a second batting point, but, inevitably, it was all rather academic. In retrospect, Middlesex, perhaps, batted too long on Monday for Derbyshire to feel it necessary to make any gestures.

There was the aesthetic pleasure of watching Holding bowl in the final two hours and he soon had Slack left before with a ball that kept low. Barlow and Butcher played some attractive strokes

towards the end, before Butcher was bowled round his legs, trying to sweep in Barnett's final over.

MIDDLESEX: First Innings 306 for 4 dec (C T Radley 103 not out, W N Slack 86).

Second Innings

G D Barlow not out 52

W N Slack lbw b Holding 8

R O Archer hit wicket b Barnett 10

Extras (5, 3, 3, 2) 13

Total (2 wickets dec) 131

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-23, 2-151, 3-151, 4-151

BOWLING: Holding 5-1-12-0, Mortimer 7-14-0, Newman 7-1-20-0, Edmonds 18-7-14-0, Williams 12-3-1-44-3, Gelling 2-2-0-3

Umpires: A G T Whithead and J W Holder.

Total (80.3 overs) 202

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-13, 2-41, 3-50, 4-52, 5-118, 6-177, 7-182, 8-184, 9-202

BOWLING: Daniel 9-1-43-1, Cowans 18-4-4-4, Emburey 21-10-20-0, Edmonds 18-4-4-4, Williams 12-3-1-44-3, Gelling 2-2-0-3

Umpires: A G T Whithead and J W Holder.

Total (7 wickets) 202

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-13, 2-41, 3-50, 4-52, 5-118, 6-177, 7-182, 8-184, 9-202

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## Changes will be good for the rest

It is the earnest hope of the Rugby Football Union (RFU) competitions sub-committee that their third bite at a distinctly similar cherry will prove successful. After the rejection of the Burgess Report in 1981, Danie Serfontein met with us more success two years ago when his committee proposed a national merit table. Now a fresh look at the structure of the game in England, which will introduce integrated league rugby, has been accepted by the RFU committee.

Bill Bishop, the Cornish chairman of the competitions committee, hopes the RFU annual meeting in July will accept, rather than debate, his presentation of the new English club championship. This will involve three national divisions, two area divisions representing the north and south, and beneath that four divisions representing the existing north, Midlands, London and south-west areas.

The sub-structure may go down as far as necessary so that any ambitious club may have its chance to climb, the whole being designed to operate in the 1987-88 season with integration completed by 1989. "During next season we hope to have meetings with all interested parties, clubs, counties and divisions to put the thing over," Bishop said yesterday.

## Automatic promotion

"We need assistance, we can't just sit down and plan a great mass nationwide. A lot of the work that was done before, by John Burgess and Danie Serfontein, is the same, but the climate is a lot better now. There are a lot of middle-order clubs who want to go somewhere, clubs who want a fair system and the top clubs see the need for a democratic society."

Eric Smith, of Orrell, a member of the competitions committee, said: "It's a most exciting prospect because there will be a national thread running through the whole competitive area of the game with automatic promotion and relegation at all stages. If you are good enough you will get there."

The national divisions will be based on the existing John Smith's merit tables, leaving the current RFU divisional tables with only another season of life. It is to be hoped that the new structure, incorporating as it will fresh qualifying rules for the John Player Special Cup, will do away with anomalies which have so frequently arisen.

The latest discrepancy involves the London merit table, won this season by Wasps. London Welsh, in eighth place, qualified for the first round of next season's John Player tournament whereas Richmond, one place below them, go through to the third round thanks to the Middle Cup - whose winners automatically given a seeding.

## Pilot schemes

Had Richmond won county cup that night... was reasonable. But they were knocked-out in the semi-finals, only to be treated as winners because the other three semi-finalists, Saracens (the winners), Wasps and Harlequins, all qualified by finishing in the top six of the merit table.

Losing quarter-finalists in the Middlesex Cup contest a first-round place in the John Player, with Mill Hill (who beat Uxbridge at the weekend) waiting to see which of Grasshoppers or Metropolitan Police they must play for the vacancy.

A properly managed league system is clearly the way forward for English rugby rather than an amorphous collection of merit tables which do not lead anywhere. Two pilot schemes are already operating this season, in the north-west and the eastern counties, which should slot neatly into the feeder system envisaged below divisional level. Those clubs who do not wish to participate will not be obliged to do so.

It may be, as the retiring secretary of the RFU said this week, that many good English players are content to remain in their small ponds. But those who wish to swim in larger rivers, and those who are ambitious for them, should be given every encouragement.

David Hands

Rugby Correspondent

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## Davis break clears the way

By Sydney Friskin

There are few better ways to start a quarter-final of the Embassy Snooker Championship at Sheffield than by making a splendid clearance break of 134. This work of art was accomplished yesterday by Steve Davis against Jimmy White to surpass the previous highest break of 121 compiled by White himself.

On his third visit to the table, having already scored four points, Davis cut a short red into a side pocket at the top of the table. There was little indication then of what was in store - a total of 14 reds, eleven blacks, one pink, two blues and all the colours, despatched readily with superb control.

White, who conceded the second frame on the brown, decided it was time to do something and he responded with a sparkling break of 84, only to run into trouble in the next frame after making a break of 4. Having escaped from a snooker on the yellow he found there was an in-off at the end of it and Davis won

the frame to go 3-1 ahead. He returned from the interval to increase his lead to 4-1 but White was back in the match at 5-3 and there should be a few more thrills before it is completed tonight.

Tony Knowles, maintaining the fluency he had acquired against Silvino Francisco on Monday night, gained early ascendancy over Kirk Stevens of Canada. Successive breaks of 48, 46 and 55 took Knowles into a 3-0 lead, but an attractive break of 74 by Stevens enabled him to cut the lead to 3-1. Knowles increased his lead to 4-1 though Stevens came back sharply with a break of 54 to reduce the lead to 4-2.

Cliff Thorburn, of Canada, became stronger and stronger once he found his rhythm against Willie Thorne and built himself a fortress in the form of a 6-2 lead. The Canadian won the first three frames without trouble, established a lead of 4-1 with a clearance of 36, and extended it to 6-1 with a break of 70.

Thorne's best effort was a clearance of 83 in the fourth frame and he gained some respectability by reducing the lead to 6-2 with a break of 46. Terry Griffiths, usually a slow starter, lost the first three frames to Joe Johnson, of Bradford, but kept in touch at the end of the morning's play by reducing Johnson's lead to 5-3.

QUARTER-FINALS: J Johnson (Eng) leads T Griffiths (Wales) 5-3 (2-55, 13-0, 7-25, 16-52, 5-56, 6-7, 75-0, 6-70; C Thorburn (Can) leads W Thorne (Eng) 6-2 (73-8, 85-10, 85-1, 39-53, 11-33, 80-2, 80-32, 0-55); S Davis (Eng) leads J White (Eng) 4-2 (138-0, 61-25, 11-84, 66-41, 82-0, 58-75; A Knowles (Eng) leads K Stevens (Can) 5-3 (62-35, 73-33, 6-7, 44-78, 53-33, 2-75, 8-2, 122-1).

MONDAY'S SECOND ROUND: A Knowles (Eng) beat S Francisco (SA) 13-10 (24-76, 24-26, 39-70, 2-83, 39-81, 40-28, 22-114, 66-50, 28-79, 88-35, 65-59, 25-71, 101-25, 84-9, 29-73, 85-33, 53-54, 79-34, 37-58, 82-1, 72-58, 76-34, 80-12; C Thorburn (Can) beat H Hughes (Ire) 13-8 (75-48, 70-55, 15-106, 73-53, 51-76, 83-22, 118-15, 24-87, 78-34, 38-81, 76-18, 13-74, 72-21, 39-39, 114-8, 62-33, 81-25, 124-0, 87-14).

## EVENING RACING RESULTS

### Folkestone

Going well 11.00 (hds) 1. Topical (A Carroll, 2-1 fav), 2. Inherit (7-2), 3. Salvo's Reward (9-1), 7. 10 ran, D White. Total: £12.70, £1.0, £1.50, £3.00, £5.00, £10.00, £15.00, £20.00, £25.00, £30.00, £35.00, £40.00, £45.00, £50.00, £55.00, £60.00, £65.00, £70.00, £75.00, £80.00, £85.00, £90.00, £95.00, £100.00.

### Sedgefield

Going good 5.15 (hds) 1. Grenville Park (G Bradley, 5-2), 2. Inherit (4-1 fav), 3. Priority Touch (12-1), 7. 20, 18 ran, Mrs M Dickinson. Total: £14.10, £1.10, £1.20, £2.50, £3.50, £4.50, £5.50, £6.50, £7.50, £8.50, £9.50, £10.50, £11.50, £12.50, £13.50, £14.50, £15.50, £16.50, £17.50, £18.50, £19.50, £20.50, £21.50, £22.50, £23.50, £24.50, £25.50, £26.50, £27.50, £28.50, £29.50, £30.50, £31.50, £32.50, £33.50, £34.50, £35.50, £36.50, £37.50, £38.50, £39.50, £40.50, £41.50, £42.50, £43.50, £44.50, £45.50, £46.50, £47.50, £48.50, £49.50, £50.50, £51.50, £52.50, £53.50, £54.50, £55.50, £56.50, £57.50, £58.50, £59.50, £60.50, £61.50, £62.50, £63.50, £64.50, £65.50, £66.50, £67.50, £68.50, £69.50, £70.50, £71.50, £72.50, £73.50, £74.50, £75.50, £76.50, £77.50, £78.50, £79.50, £80.50, £81.50, £82.50, £83.50, £84.50, £85.50, £86.50, £87.50, £88.50, £89.50, £90.50, £91.50, £92.50, £93.50, £94.50, £95.50, £96.50, £97.50, £98.50, £99.50, £100.50.

## Filly's future bright

Mons Future, given to the Dorking trainer, Hugh O'Neill, by a patron of his stable, Alan Huxley, who had become disillusioned with the filly, led virtually all the way to win the Baginbode Selling Stakes at Nottingham yesterday.

Simon Whitworth drove the 9-1 chance clear at halfway, and the grey crossed the line with two lengths to spare over Sarason, who he could keep her, and after today's victory, on only her second racecourse appearance, she was bought in for 1,600 guineas.

"Mons Future was bought as a yearling for 3,400 guineas, but when she was sent up for re-sale she was twice failed in her wind by the vet, Mr Huxley then gave her to me," O'Neill said. "She does make funny noises at home, but it is just temper. She grows," he added.

O'Neill said he offered Mons Future back to Mr Huxley, but was told he could keep her, and after today's victory, on only her second racecourse appearance, she was bought in for 1,600 guineas.

## CYCLING

### Belgian bursts through after spill by leader

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